INDIAN REVIEW

EDITED BY Mr. G. A. NATESAN.

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1944

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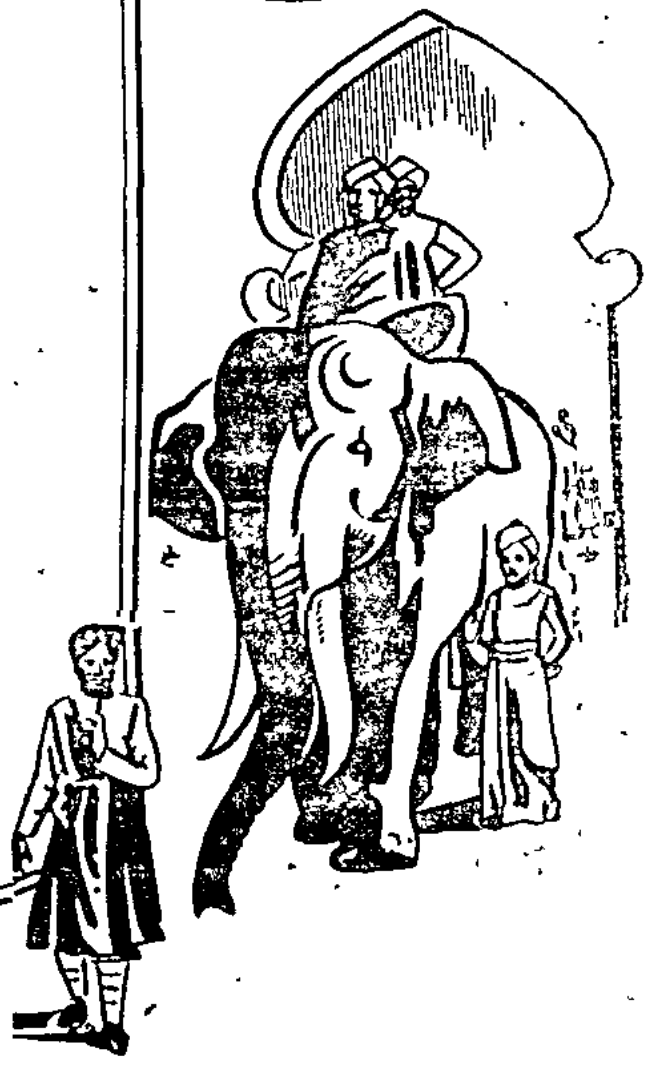
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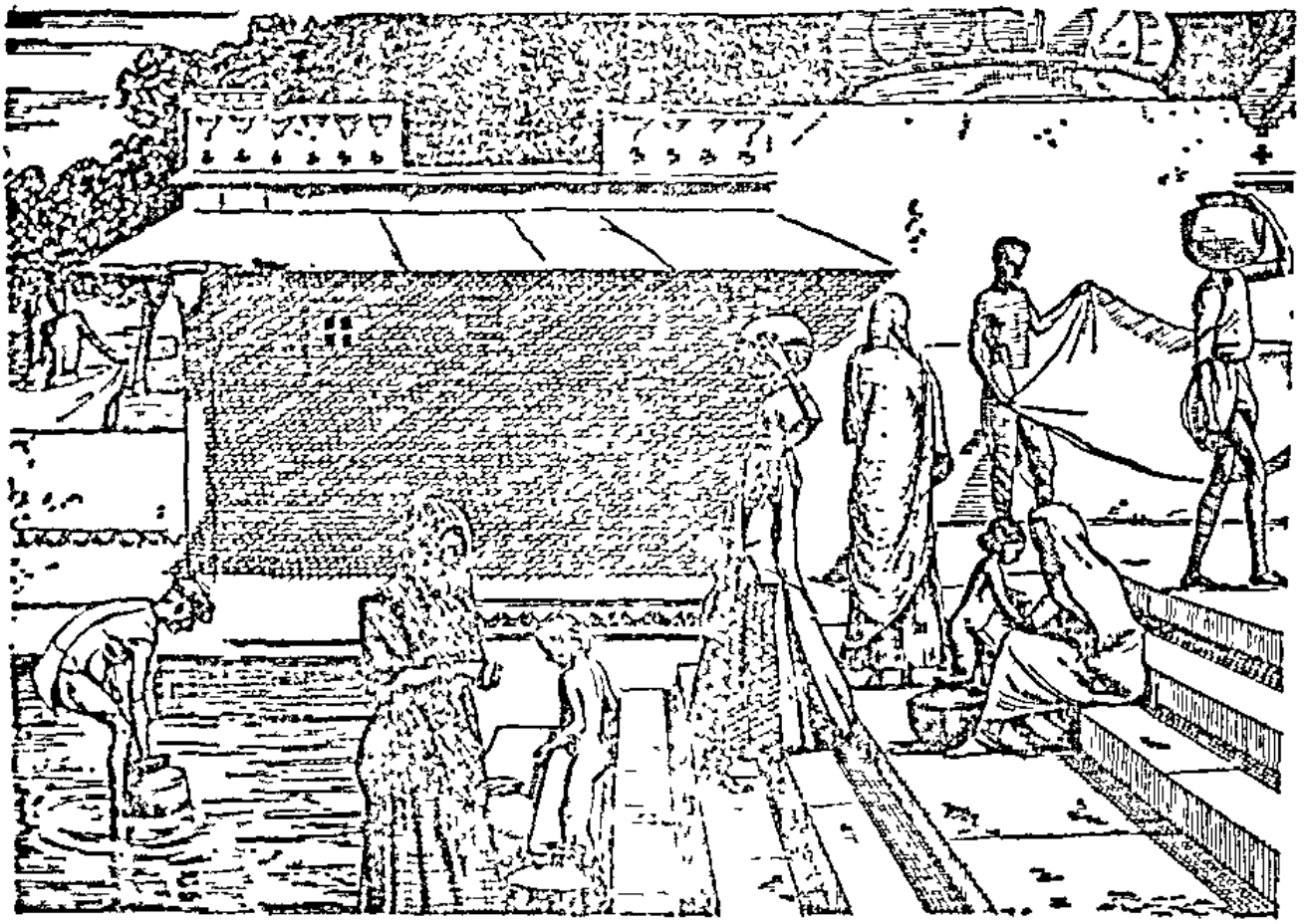
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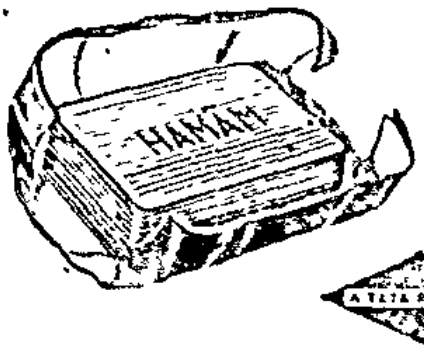


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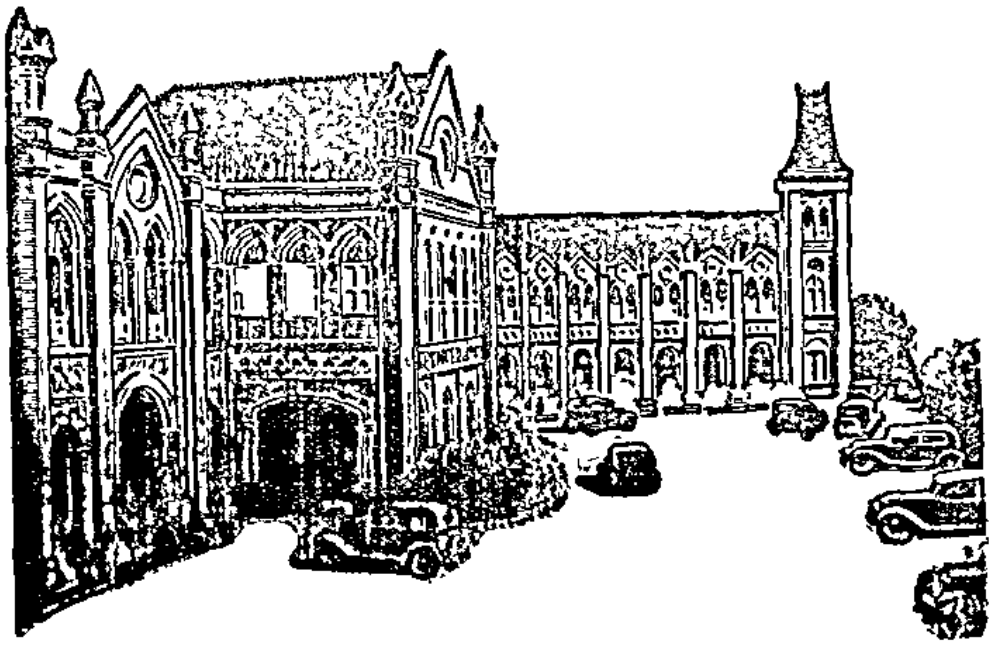
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.] JANUARY 1944 [No. 1.

VANDALS

By Mr. NICHOLAS ROERICH

THINGS are beginning to be chaotic and unsettled on this earth. The planet has never been very stable, but at the present moment, there would seem to be, according to the reports, a sort of whirlwind of destruction.

From Europe one of our friends writes: "To-day we saw a film, taken in Spain, which showed the destruction caused by air raids over Barcelona. The effect was very depressing. Immense buildings were cut in two, as if by a knife; one of these was pulverized, the other still stood with all its rooms open to view and occupied, and one could see the corpses lying everywhere. There was a school which showed how scores of children had been slain, and on the half-demolished platform, the dead body of the teacher. The Spanish Government has arranged an exhibition to show how artistic and historic treasures were destroyed, together with the measures adopted for their preservation. These consist of the exportation of transportable art treasures and the protection of the historic monuments by means of sand bags. No doubt you have also read the plan of 'Geneva Refuges'. for children and aged people, all of which however is only a palliative. Not long ago, at a banquet of the Institute of Higher International Studies, it was agreed that our Pact would be preferable to such measures, because of its moral and cultural value. At the same time, everyone agreed that its eventual adversaries, whom we know by their action in Spain, China and Ethiopia, will not hesitate to violate the Pact or the general Convention of the Red Cross."

In Red Cross' circles they are quite convinced of this. Thus humanity has, so far, deviated from the principles of culture and civilization that even the Red Cross is beginning to lose its significance.

The idea of burying lofty cathedrals under sand bags is as absurd as to speak of abolishing the Red Cross and wrapping every soldier up in sand bags. The idea of burying national treasures, moreover, has a pre-historic flavour about it. Recently, one of the English ministers, Mr. Eden, foresaw that, in the future, terrified city folk might be obliged to flee to the caves and cellars like the troglodytes of old. Let the worldly-minded, then, adopt such primitive methods and bury their treasures.

All this, however, is so far from the spirit of our Pact that it would be a very easy matter to show our priority and the little value such measures have, when compared with a cult for the art treasures of all mankind.

Caricaturists could find matter in these methods, for they might depict a cathedral smothered up to the spires in sand bags, so as to illustrate the biblical warning: "Build not upon the sand."

If humanity is to abandon all its highest principles and stake all its hope on sand bags, then it has come to a very sorry pass.

Everything to-day justifies us and our friends in issuing a call to defend all national treasures. It is said that when the ostrich gets wind of danger, it thrusts its head beneath its wing or in the sand. Natural history is full of such examples, and we might do worse than study the life of ants and bees who possess superb organization.

In every periodical we look at to-day, we come across illustrations of barbarous destructions. Such documents will continue to live as a shameful witness of what has been done by the humanity

of our times, although the whole of mankind is, of course, not necessarily engrossed in such destruction. But such acts are being perpetrated before the eyes of all and when we figure the percentage of those who raise their voices to protest, it is not overwhelming. In any street accident you will find four classes of people around you. Those who make a genuine effort to help, those who congregate from mere curiosity, others who draw off in fear and, finally, those who take a pleasure in the misfortune of others. And with vandalism it is all the same. Whether active or passive, they are the same uncultured destroyers. Toleration towards evil differs little from evil itself, and it is high time for humanity to give attention to the passive type of vandal. Before our eyes all kind of destruction is going on, either from the bombs of totalitarian warfare or from human poisoning of one sort or another. It is a question which sort of poison is the more ruinous—that of poison gas, or that which aims at the destruction of culture. In the so-called peaceful communities anti cultural processes are now taking place, on a large scale, while people remain silent or crowds are divided as in the case of street accidents At such times alas, the number of those who exert themselves on behalf of culture is extremely small, while the crowd of those who are curious or malignant takes on huge proportions.

All these curious or evil minded people try to excuse their conduct, but they are unwilling to reflect that, in so doing, they range themselves alongside the vandals.

All who evade joining in the defence of culture enlist in the ranks of passive vandals. In passivity there is always a kind of activity, which can be very dreadful and repulsive with consequences that may bring about the disintegration of an entire nation

The passive vandal ought not to imagine that his silence has no effect

On the contrary, history exposes not only the active vandal but also those who stood by idly and looked on while torture and destruction were being committed.

How heartless, how cruel are all those who feign deafness and remain silent when they ought to cry out.

We have spoken of defending everything which helps on the evolution of the human race.

Defence is one thing, but aggression is quite another. We have issued a call not to bury ourselves under sand bags but to counteract destruction through the power of thought, of culture.

Traces of culture are being destroyed, obliterated and scattered abroad and, in allowing this, mankind has composed a page of history which will look very black in the future.

The doings of such brutal destroyers and torturers will be recorded together with the fact that a vast portion of humanity connived and assisted in such vandalism.

There are many ways of participating in such crimes. One need not launch a bomb oneself from the airplane; there are also those who manufacture bombs and invent arms and engines of destruction One can stand opposed to cultural undertakings and, destruction, distortion of constructive thoughts, bring on a condition of savagery.

From such premeditated schemes, the dispersal, dismemberment and annihilation of whole groups of accumulated treasures can arise. Everyone who by deed or thought contributes to such destruction must be included with the vandals and plays havoc with the human spirit.

Terrible deeds are going on in the world. Devastating wars are no longer known as wars. The most dire destruction goes by the name of 'change of policy' while the vandals strut round in new uniforms and trappings and look upon themselves as the arbiters of destiny.

Does it matter which way man rushes to fratricide and self-destruction? Perhaps we shall have a new march composed some day for those who proceed towards criminal vandalism.

Yet, there is this enormous majority of curious and malicious onlookers, this odious tribe who fail to understand that they themselves are furthering all sorts of vandalism.

It is horrible to witness that the heirs of Goethe and Schiller have become cruel vandals.

INDIA AND WORLD ORDER

BY THE RT. HON. SRINIVASA SASTRI, P.C., C.H.

FIELD Marshal Smuts has made one speech on the future but trodden on a multitude of corns. That will be the fate of every one who ventures into that region. No problem is simple. When we are on it, it will appear the worst problem of all. India's case is as hard to tackle as any. She must concern herself not only with her own fate, but with that of others. Especially she must co-operate with China to obtain for the East and the coloured races the economic and political equality which has hitherto been denied. Her particular wants, sore and clamant as they are, are but part of the wants of this hemisphere. President Roosevelt may have a large heart, but is ignorant and cannot be bold and strong on our side. Stalin, frightened at the strangeness and complexity of Asiatic questions, will become indifferent: and small blame to him. Churchill and Amery, swollen by the caprice of Mars to demonic size, may ask and get freedom to deal with India and what she stands for, and use it without scruple to the undoing of our hopes. It won't be easy to shout them down in any case. But our chance of a hearing will be absolutely nil unless our loudest and bravest voices are raised at the right moment. So long as the most potent of these are in gaol, we have only a black and forbidding prospect.

It is worth repeating at this point that our national liberty is so linked up with the world-order that one of the most effective means of securing it is for our spokesmen to be in evidence at the peace table and make themselves known as the champions of justice for all. I must likewise remind my compatriots of a force inimical to our cause which has always been there and which has recently assumed prominence. I allude to the claim of the Dominions to pronounce their opinion on our claim to their status. The Cabinet have apparently allowed this claim, if a recent ministerial declaration in Parliament is to be accorded full weight. Mr. Lionel Curtis, once a prophet in *Imperial politics*, was the *first* to offend our ears by a blatant enunciation of it. But Montagu and Ramsay MacDonald, both told me they found it necessary to consult Dominion Premiers whenever India's Dominionhood came within their ken. Smuts and Hertzog, Hughes, Massey and Meighen have all given opinions,—in our favour, they assured me. The practice has perhaps hardened into a convention. We certainly know of complaints of the Dominions that they were not consulted on this and that matter of high Imperial policy, and of the apologistic plea of Britain that distance and urgency alone had been in the way. Surely, the argument is understandable, if not conclusive, that the creation of a new Dominion and its admission into what has been called a sisterhood concerns not only the eldest sister but the younger ones of the family as well. When the moment for decision arrives, I do not see any Dominion unwilling to welcome the stranger.

COLOUR PREJUDICE

One obstacle, however, there is, and it is both real and great. The Dominions will seek to get their anti-colour attitude confirmed and placed beyond question. Smuts is our strongest antagonist, and the other Premiers will range themselves behind him. He has long been advocating the consolidation of Africa, so far as it is under the British sphere of influence, into one vast area for the prevalence of white in this case of Boer civilization. He now towers high among the world's greatest men. I have no doubt he feels that his moment is come. He can assume the tone and manner of a seer and solemnly abjure the clash of civilizations as the greatest menace to the peace and happiness of mankind. He once admonished me and through me social reformers in India not to oppose or weaken the caste system. An Indian authority told me the other day that he has recently mellowed in his attitude towards Indians in South Africa. If there be any truth in this statement, it can only be in favour of some petty amelioration, not in the direction of equality, co-citizenship or brotherhood. The leopard cannot change his spots. I dwell on this point so much because, if the reciprocity resolution, to which India became a party twenty-five

years ago, and which gives full scope to colour and race prejudice under a specious cover of impartiality, is to be reconsidered now, it can be only by a supreme effort on the part of the Indian delegation, which must be worthy to sit alongside Chiang Kai-shek and his party and compel attention to the wishes of the East, long repressed but determined, on the coming occasion, to strive, to seek, to find and not to yield.

POPULAR GOVERNMENT

It is idle to expect this superlative service to be performed by the nominees of the Viceroy counselled by his present advisers. Only a popular government can choose our champions. Pity it cannot be made constitutionally in time. But it can be made popular in spirit. The prerequisites may be repeated with advantage. They are, release of political prisoners and detenus, general elections, the restoration of popular rule in the provinces which have lost it, and the change of personnel *in the Central Government so as to* reflect the renovated nationalism in the ranks of public life The British authorities at Westminster will lose nothing, but gain a great deal in the good opinion of the world by taking the initiative and seeing these reforms put into operation. Unfortunately they don't possess the necessary moral stature. Men of small hearts sit in high places, and an infernal war has made them indurate. Idealism is gone. Grab has driven out generosity. Indian patriots may look to Britishers for sympathy in some measure, but not from the circles that count. Is it enough for us to say that the Government which put *the leaders out of action* must reverse its policy *suo marte*? Does our duty end with the fixation of responsibility on the proper shoulders? Are not our interests primarily at stake? When issues of the first order are involved, the initiative must be taken by us. The cost, material and immaterial, must not be counted with excessive nicety. Consistency is nothing, prestige is nothing. Surely it is possible to devise a form of words which will not cast on Congress leaders responsibility that they have not incurred and which will at the same time set in the clear light of certainty their intention to help in the winning of victory. If I suggested the doing of a little wrong to do a great right, I should be doing violence to propriety. My recommendation involves no more than a relaxation of the stiffness of injured pride. The path of humanity is not necessarily the path of dishonour when the welfare of posterity is at stake. So far as we can judge, the authorities desire to continue *the status quo* till the end of the war, which in effect will mean till the peace is well on its way. It is we that want a move on. It is we that must try to resolve the deadlock.

Of course problems of urgency like the food situation in Bengal occupy the attention of our best men and women almost to the exclusion of other matters. This is only right. But we cannot afford to lose sight even for a time of the paramount importance of the world-effort for peace, in which we have no mean party to play. India's honour among the great nations must be worthily maintained and if possible enhanced. Nor is it to be forgotten that participation in large questions of the world will help our leaders in leading with our particular problems with surer grasp and greater confidence and therefore with better results.

THE LIBERAL FEDERATION

The twenty-fourth session of the National Liberal Federation of India was held at Bombay on December 29, under the presidency of Sir Maharaj Singh Sir Maharaj Singh, in the course of his presidential address, said

No Indian, whatever his party or creed, is satisfied with the existing form of Government either at the Centre or in many provinces Its continuance will only lead to increased underground discontent and further deplorable tension between the British and Indian races at the end of the the war Large sections of opinion in the U S A., as well as in Great Britain, sympathise with us on this point. The present policy of the British Government of insistence on an agreed solution by Indians, theoretically justifiable though it may appear, is as ungracious as it is undignified. No ruling power can legitimately fold its hands and stand aloof in questions of vital importance whether in India or elsewhere. Great Britain did not adopt this attitude in dealing with the problem of self government in Canada, South Africa or Ireland They and we must try again and yet again until a solution is reached.

LIBERTY OF THE SUBJECT IN WAR-TIME

BY MR. S. RAMASWAMY IYER, B.A., B.L.

IT has been said that in a modern war truth is one of the first casualties. Liberty of the subject is also an early casualty. But these are among the sacrifices which a free people like those of England or the United States willingly make when they decide through their chosen leaders to wage a war in furtherance of their interests. But even among such people invasion of the individual's right, especially of his liberty, is jealously watched and when it happens to be excessive or improper, keenly resented by public opinion. The aggrieved individual is not slow to seek the protection of the ordinary Courts of law which have been regarded in England for a long time as the bulwark of popular liberties.

The purpose of this article is to acquaint the ordinary reader with the legislative provisions and judicial decisions which have recently attracted public attention on the above subject.

Before doing so, it may be premised that the powers of the State to invade individual rights of property and liberty for the purpose of national defence in a war have never been disputed. Under the English law the Crown and its officers have the power to impress men for military service, seize or acquire property or imprison persons, if these measures are required by the emergency. But Courts of law have also the power to enquire into the necessity or propriety of such measures. In a case of imprisonment the aggrieved subject would invoke this power either by applying for immediate release by means of the well-known writ of Habeas Corpus or by instituting a civil suit for damages or a criminal prosecution against the officers responsible for the imprisonment. To avoid the inconvenience resulting from such proceedings, it was the practice of Governments in England during former wars to obtain from Parliament Habeas Corpus Suspension Acts for a temporary period, usually a year and renewed during the emergency of the particular war and Indemnity Acts after the emergency. During the last and present war the Government has taken care to arm itself in advance with statutory powers of a far more comprehensive and drastic character than in the past. These powers have been enacted by legislation known as the Defence of the Realm Acts in England and the Defence of India Acts in India. The effect of these Acts is among other matters to confer on the executive Government and its officers very great powers of invading individual rights of person and property and to specify these powers with particularity with the result that acts done by them in exercise of these powers are valid and beyond the possibility of judicial review or control. This is justified on the ground that the heavy responsibilities of a Government answerable to the nation for the successful conduct of a modern war demand these plenary powers and also on the ground that ordinary Courts of law are hardly competent to share in these responsibilities or to form a proper judgment on matters which must be left to executive discretion in such emergencies.

The Defence of India Act passed by the Central Legislature came into force on the 29th September, 1939. Section 2 of the Act confers on the Central Government power to make rules on a large

of matters specified in 35 sub-clauses. The tenth sub clause mentions one of such matters, *viz.*, the apprehension and detention of persons reasonably suspected of having acted, acting or about to act in a manner prejudicial to the public safety or interest or to the defence of British India. In pursuance of the rule-making power conferred by Sec. 2, Rules known as Defence of India Rules have been promulgated from time to time. They are 133 in number and form quite a big code with which even an ordinary layman may profitably form a nodding acquaintance as it purports to regulate his conduct in very many matters of daily life and routine. Rule 26 says that the Central or Provincial Government may make an order of detention of a person if it is satisfied that it is necessary to do so *with a view to prevent him from* acting prejudicially to the defence of British India, public order and safety or the efficient prosecution of the war. The phrases 'Central' and 'Provincial Government' mean the Governor-General or the Governor acting alone or with his Councillors or Ministers but it is important to note that these Governments can delegate the power to pass an order of detention to any subordinate officer. Besides Rule 129 enables a Police Officer or any other officer of Government empowered in this behalf to arrest without warrant any person whom he suspects of having acted, acting or about to act prejudicially. . . . The officer has to report the fact of arrest to the Provincial Government who can make its own order of detention under Rule 26 or order his release.

In pursuance of these wide powers, various persons were detained since the commencement of the war but they should have been mostly persons of enemy nationality who happened to be at that time in this country. It was, however, after August, 1942, that these powers were used to detain large numbers of persons on the ground of their participation in political propaganda considered by Government to be of a subversive character.

On 22nd April, 1943, the Federal Court of India pronounced a remarkable decision which caused a great deal of excitement, especially in official circles. The decision was that Rule 26 was invalid and *ultra vires*, as it was wider than the rule-making power in Sec. 2 of the Act would warrant. This decision was pronounced in an appeal from the Bombay High Court which rejected the application of one Keshav Talpade for a writ of Habeas Corpus to release him. He appears to be an obscure individual, a petition-writer, but was considered by the Government as deserving of detention and detained in the Yeravada Central Jail, Poona. According to Sec. 2 of the Act, *reasonable suspicion of some prejudicial act, present or prospective,* was necessary for detention but according to the Rule purporting to derive life and validity from the Act, detention could be made *with a view to prevent such an act*, even if there was no room for reasonable suspicion of the person doing or about to do it. This is a substantial and not a mere verbal distinction and would mean a great difference in the manner in which the officer having the power of detention would proceed to exercise it. The Federal Court (Sir Maurice Gwyer, Varadachariar and Zafrulla Khan JJ.), held that Rule 26 was therefore invalid and directed the Bombay High Court to dispose of the case in accordance with this decision. The

Bombay High Court should have given effect to this decision of a higher judicial authority and released the applicant but the then Chief Justice Sir John Beaumont and another Judge refused to do so on grounds into which it is here unnecessary to enter. The applicant was finally released by orders of Government.

Soon after the Federal Court's decision on the 22nd April, a large number of detenus applied for writs of Habeas Corpus in the various High Courts. On the 28th of April, the Governor-General promulgated an Ordinance (XIV of 1943) in exercise of the powers of legislation which he had on occasions of emergency under the Government of India Act (Sch. IX, Sec. 72). By this Ordinance he purported to validate Rule 26 by enacting that Sec. 2 of the Defence of India Act should be amended and enlarged so as to comprehend the terms of the Rule and with retrospective effect. In other words, the Section would read as if it allowed a rule to be framed for apprehension and detention of a person with a view to prevent him from acting prejudicially and not merely on reasonable suspicion of his so acting or about to act. The Ordinance proceeded to say (Sec. 3) that the validity of the orders already made could not be questioned in any Court of law on the ground of the rule being invalid. When the applications came up for hearing in May, they were opposed by the Government on the strength of the Ordinance successfully in some Courts like the Calcutta High Court which accepted the applicants' case that the Ordinance was invalid and the orders were improperly made and unsuccessfully in some Courts like the Madras High Court. Many of these cases were taken up to the Federal Court by one party or the other. After a very full debate that Court decided on the 31st August, 1943, that except in a few cases from Bengal the detention of the applicants could not be challenged by reason of Sec. 3 of the Ordinance and therefore their applications should fail. In the exceptional cases from Bengal the Court held that the orders of detention were invalid and improper because they were not made by the authority empowered by Rule 26 to make them. The orders were issued in the name of the Governor by Mr. Porter, Additional Home Secretary, but certain facts disclosed in statements of the Home Minister in answer to questions in the Legislative Assembly showed that neither the Governor nor the Minister had applied his mind to the need for detention, but the Police would arrest and detain and their orders would be automatically confirmed by the Government. The Minister naively told the Assembly, "We have adopted the device of issuing orders under Defence Rule 26 pending scrutiny of the information submitted to us. . . . and cases are put up and as a matter of routine the order under Rule 129 is converted into one under Rule 26 unless there are special reasons why a recommendation should be made for their release." No wonder that in the Federal Court Zafrulla Khan J. delivering judgment on behalf of himself and Varadachariar J. observed: "We cannot condemn the procedure adopted in these cases too strongly. It would be difficult to conceive of a more callous disregard of the provisions of the law and the liberty of the subject."

The result is that Rule 26 is no longer invalid and detention orders passed under its wide terms cannot be questioned in Courts of law on the ground of any defect in it.

The Rules empowering detention as set out above are distinctly more unfavourable

to the subject than those in England framed under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Act, 1939. Regulation 18-B, sub-clause A says that the Home Secretary can make an order of detention against a person if the Secretary has reasonable cause to believe that person to have *been recently concerned in prejudicial acts* and by reason thereof to consider his detention necessary. The Regulation proceeds in other sub-clauses to provide for the setting up of Advisory Committees appointed by the Home Secretary to which the detenu can prefer objections to his detention and to its manner or continuance. It is stated to be the duty of the Home Secretary to see that the detenu is afforded the earliest practicable opportunity to make representations to the Committee. The contrast between the English and Indian rules is obvious on the face of the Rules, apart from the peculiar conditions in India which bring large numbers of people engaged in a political struggle into violent conflict with Government and its officers, high and low.

An important safeguard of the liberty of the subject is his right when charged with a crime, to be tried in the ordinary Courts of law and according to normal procedure. In India this right has been abrogated. On 2nd January, 1942, the Governor-General promulgated an Ordinance (II of 1942) known as the Special Criminal Courts Ordinance which constituted Special Courts for the trial of offenders brought before them. A Special Judge could pass any sentence even of death and his sentence need not be confirmed by the High Court as it requires to be done normally but was only subject to review by a person who is chosen from among the Judges of the High Court. A Special Magistrate could pass any sentence up to imprisonment for seven years. The usual procedure of trial by jury or with assessors, recording of evidence, right of appeal and even a public hearing, was not available to accused persons. Furthermore the Ordinance left it to the choice of officers empowered by Government in that behalf whether accused persons should be tried by the Ordinary Courts or by these Special Courts. This proved a fatal defect for the life of the Ordinance because the officers concerned could in effect abrogate the normal procedure provided by the Criminal Procedure Code,—a thing which only the legislature could do. The Calcutta High Court held in April, 1943, that the Ordinance was invalid on this and other grounds and in appeals preferred by the Government of Bengal against this decision, the Federal Court by a majority (Varadachariar and Zafrulla Khan JJ., Rowland J. dissenting) held likewise. These decisions were pronounced on applications made by persons undergoing trial before Special Courts for writs of Habeas Corpus for release from custody and for writs quashing or stopping further proceedings before these Courts. Soon after the Calcutta High Court's decision was reported in the newspapers, numerous petitions of a similar nature were filed in other High Courts. They were kept pending to await the Federal Court's decision. This decision was pronounced on 4th June, 1943. On the next day (5th June), the Governor-General promulgated an Ordinance (XIX of 1943) under his emergency power of law-making already referred to. By this Ordinance the Special Courts were abolished but the sentences already passed by them were declared valid and lawful subject to rights of appeal under the ordinary law. When the petitions referred to above came up, the Government relied on the Ordinance to maintain the convictions and sentences already passed. The contentions of the petitioners that the Ordinance had legal flaws which would render it invalid succeeded in some Courts but not in others and have been finally rejected by the Federal Court. The result is that persons who were convicted and sentenced by Courts which were legally incompetent to try or convict them have to submit to the sentences, sometimes of death.

Even in England and the U.S.A., there is a respectable body of opinion which dislikes and deplores the entrustment of arbitrary and uncontrolled powers to the executive—powers which would not, it is said, be tolerated by a previous generation. In India the objections to such entrustment are undoubtedly far greater but are mixed up with the larger political issues which remain to be solved.

A United Nations Commission for India

A number of people have offered suggestions for resolving the Indian deadlock. Professor Bertrand Russell's suggestions, which are presented in the following excerpts, may be read with interest.—[ED. *I. R.*]

THE following suggestions are based on two premises, both of which have been part of our political belief for a very long time; they are, (1) that Great Britain should grant Indian demands for *Swaraj*, not through the concession of Dominion Status as an integral part of the British Commonwealth of Nations (the Indians are not British), but admitting that India has the same right to independence as any other country in the modern world; (2) that this right to independence on the part of nations is strictly limited. No nation should be subject to another nation, but each nation should be subject in some respects to all the others. This is simply an extension of the principle of democratic government to international affairs.

There are two classes of decisions to be taken: first, as to the war period, second as to the status of India after the war. Both must be taken while the war is in progress, since they affect the attitude of Indians to the war.

For the war period, the problem should be treated solely in relation to success in the war. It is important that the civil disobedience campaign should cease, and that Indian leaders (not only of the Congress Party) should have indubitable proof of the British intention to do everything towards meeting their wishes that is compatible with the efficient prosecution of the war. Negotiations should be revived, on the understanding that, so long as they continue, there will be no civil disobedience movement and the present political prisoners will be set at liberty. The negotiators should not be all *British, but should represent the* United Nations. For this there are two reasons: first, that the Indian question is to be considered from the standpoint of victory in the war, which is a matter that concerns all the United Nations equally; secondly, that the deep suspicion of the British which unfortunately exists in India makes purely British promises inacceptable. We should suggest, therefore, that the negotiators should consist of four commissioners, representing respectively the British, American, Soviet, and Chinese Governments.

THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM

It must be admitted that even international arbitrators would be unlikely to find the problem a simple one. Gandhi has expressed his fear of having American rule added to British. There has been indignation among Muslims over an alleged pro-Congress bias in both China and America. And Dr. Ambedkar, the leader of the Depressed Classes, recently repudiated the suggestion of United Nations' intervention in the following terms:

"To me it seems as impolitic as it is unbecoming for Indians to get other nations to find a solution for their problems. It is impolitic because the Allied Nations urging settlement of the Indian problem are looking at it from their own point of view and not from the viewpoint of Indians. They want a settlement, not because they are interested in doing justice to the various elements in its national life. They want a settlement because they want to use India as a base for operations, and they want the base to be peaceful. Their primary interest is to win the war in which they are engaged. The settlement of India's question is only incidental. Under such circumstances, they might suggest a settlement in haste which the Indians may have to regret at leisure."

Dr. Ambedkar's fears are most natural. But the danger of a hastily devised solution can be avoided. The United Nations Commission should go to India, ascertain the main facts, and converse with the leaders of the various parties, with a view to discovering and recommending *(a)* interim measures,, for the war period, designed to end the present deadlock and help the war effort, *(b)* a long-run solution of the Indian problem, to be put into effect when the war is over.

With regard to the war period, their purpose should be to discover what is the utmost that can be done immediately in

the way of handing over administrative power to Indians without risk of administrative chaos. They will have to remember that it is not enough to please only one Party, since the resentment of the others might produce a situation even worse than that which now exists. We do not know what recommendations they will find possible, but in any case, Indians and Americans will know that their finding will be dictated solely by military needs, not by any wish to preserve British imperialism. We think, therefore, that at least one good result may be expected, namely, that there will be a great diminution of the widespread suspicion of Great Britain which at present exists in the United States. And in the meantime the mere existence of such negotiations will make possible the release of political prisoners, provided that the Congress leaders are prepared to call off the civil disobedience campaign while the negotiations continue. We suspect that many Indian leaders would show greater readiness to negotiate a settlement if they were to become convinced of the likelihood of an Allied victory.

TAGORE AND INDIAN NATIONALISM

BY PROF. SUKUMAR RANJAN DAS, M.A., Ph.D.

BROUGHT up in a family and an environment which helped the growth of a new sense of self-respect and a new spirit of self assertion, Rabindranath was quickened into the "organ voice" of a new departure in the political thought and conduct of the country. Even when he was twenty-three years old, he read a paper strongly criticizing the futile method and humiliating character of the agitation of that time. An extract from this paper will reveal the mind that Rabindranath brought to the consideration of the political problems of the country: "We may appear to be gaining as Government granted us one privilege after another. But who cared to enquire after the injury that unknown to us occurred? Do we not as often cry out—'Victory to the profession of begging!' Carry on agitation by all means but direct it to your own people; . . . and educate yourselves, educate your people. . . . Then will national self-respect sprout in the heart of the commonalty of the land". Since then from 1881 till his death, in everything that the poet had written, on every occasion that the poet had spoken, he made self-reverence, self knowledge and self-control, the corner stones of our national regeneration. It was an up-hill task and till 1900 it appeared to be a cry in the wilderness, when with the influence of the message and work of Dadabhai Naoroji, Surendranath Banerji, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Aurabinda Ghosh the ground was prepared and the seed that had been sown appeared to have sprouted into a harvest of noble thoughts, of far-reaching aspirations and of reckless sacrifice. Rabindranath had the rare fortune to have played an active part in this regeneration.

As early as 1901, Rabindranath propounded Pan-Asiatic ideas in the course of an appreciative review of Lowes Dickinson's Letters of John Chinaman and joined in the country-wide agitation against Lord Curzon's unwarranted attack on the veracity of Eastern people in the latter's Convocation address at the Calcutta University (15th February, 1902). In 1905, Rabindranath commenced to discuss in the pages of a monthly journal the burning questions of the day; one such question was raised as to the best means of establishing contact of the masses with public movements and at a meeting of the students Rabindranath delivered an address urging them to organize the villages, in course of which the poet said, "The down-trodden and the despised who have become callous to insults and oblivious of even the rights of their humanity must be taught the meaning of the word, brother. Teach them to be strong and protect themselves and that is the only way. Educate them and show them how to put forward their united strength."

At about this time following the official announcement of Lord Curzon's decision to partition of Bengal (August 7, 1905), Rabindranath threw himself in a fierce blaze of activity. He emphasized, once again, the need of organizing the villages, indicating a programme of constructive, non-co-operation, his passionate patriotism finding vent in a large number of national songs ranging over the entire gamut of patriotic emotions resounding all over the country. He gave up the national prayer to "oppose the power that would plant its banner upon our soul." His trumpet voice was raised in India's prayer:

> Give us power to resist pleasure where it enslaves us.
> To lift our sorrow up to Thee as the summer holds its mid-day sun,
> Make us strong that our worship may flower in love, and bear fruit in work."

The poet addressed, frequently, great mass meetings moving thousands by the magic of his words and songs and thus became the High Priest of the Swadeshi Movement and one of the leading exponents of the new gospel of Nationalism. From a singer of songs he shaped himself into the prophet who could utter flaming words to the assembly,—words that burnt out all that was mean and weak in his countrymen. It was Rabindranath who first preached the duty of eschewing all voluntary associations with official activities and of applying ourselves to the organization of the social and economic life of the country, independently of official help and control. Rabindranath was the first to propound an elaborate scheme for the practical boycott of the administration to the farthest limits.

Freedom to the poet did not mean political freedom only, but freedom in thought, deed and action, in every walk of life. In these sublime lines Rabindranath offered his prayer for his country:—

> Where the clear stream of reason has not died away in the dreary desert sand of dead habit,
> where the mind is led forward by Thee, into ever-widening thought and action,
> into that haven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.

For his motherland the poet wanted "freedom from the insult of dwelling in a doll's world where movements are started through brainless wires, repeated through mindless habits." He abhorred the demon of oppression and shackles of slavery. He could not dream how one nation could be unjust to another. So he was horrified at the Jalianbagh atrocities and his indignation like a heavenly rage mingled with the deepest pain found expression in the poet's famous letter to Lord Chelmsford, the then Viceroy of India, while renouncing his knighthood. "Time has come," said the poet, "when all these decorations make our shame glaring. . . . and I want to stand among my countrymen, shorn of all distinctions." The poet chose to stand by the meek, the lowly and the despised. The reply the poet gave to Miss Rathbone in recent years was another occasion when he chose again to be India's spokesman.

Rabindranath was the singer and prophet of the new nationalism and he was the maker of its sacraments. The idea of Rakhibandhan celebration to affirm the unity of Bengal was his and it was he who pronounced its *mantras*. But when in course of a few years out of the fumes of the Swadeshi movement emerged the spectre of terrorism, the poet uttered his solemn voice of warning, pointing out that this new phenomenon was alien to the spirit of Indian culture and would lead the country to a morass of chaos from which it would be difficult to emerge unscathed.

Rabindranath's nationalism was not a mere abstraction or a fancy. The country to him was a living personality. In his poetry and prose he has written the inner history of his country. But his patriotism was free from the taint of narrow parochialism. Though India was his home he belonged to the world at large. His haven of freedom was "where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls." He placed his love of mankind above all local attachments. He said in one of his poems, "There is only one race in the world, that is the human race." His correspondence with the Japanese poet, Noguchi, is an eloquent testimony to the fact that China was as dear to him as

the way of handing over administrative power to Indians without risk of administrative chaos. They will have to remember that it is not enough to please only one Party, since the resentment of the others might produce a situation even worse than that which now exists. We do not know what recommendations they will find possible, but in any case, Indians and Americans will know that their finding will be dictated solely by military needs, not by any wish to preserve British imperialism. We think, therefore, that at least one good result may be expected, namely, that there will be a great diminution of the widespread suspicion of Great Britain which at present exists in the United States. And in the meantime the mere existence of such negotiations will make possible the release of political prisoners, provided that the Congress leaders are prepared to call off the civil disobedience campaign while the negotiations continue. We suspect that many Indian leaders would show greater readiness to negotiate a settlement if they were to become convinced of the likelihood of an Allied victory.

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BY PROF. SUKUMAR RANJAN DAS, M.A., Ph.D.

BROUGHT up in a family and an environment which helped the growth of a new sense of self-respect and a new spirit of self assertion, Rabindranath was quickened into the "organ voice" of a new departure in the political thought and conduct of the country. Even when he was twenty-three years old, he read a paper strongly criticizing the futile method and humiliating character of the agitation of that time. An extract from this paper will reveal the mind that Rabindranath brought to the consideration of the political problems of the country. "We may appear to be gaining as Government granted us one privilege after another. But who cared to enquire after the injury that unknown to us occurred? Do we not as often cry out—'Victory to the profession of begging!' Carry on agitation by all means but direct it to your own people; . . . and educate yourselves, educate your people. . . . Then will national self-respect sprout in the heart of the commonalty of the land". Since then from 1881 till his death, in everything that the poet had written, on every occasion that the poet had spoken, he made self-reverence, self-knowledge and self-control, the corner-stones of our national regeneration. It was an up-hill task and till 1900 it appeared to be a cry in the wilderness, when with the influence of the message and work of Dadabhai Naoroji, Surendranath Banerji, Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Aurabinda Ghosh the ground was prepared and the seed that had been sown appeared to have sprouted into a harvest of noble thoughts, of far-reaching aspirations and of reckless sacrifice. Rabindranath had the rare fortune to have played an active part in this regeneration.

As early as 1901, Rabindranath propounded Pan-Asiatic ideas in the course of an appreciative review of Lowes Dickinson's Letters of John Chinaman and joined in the country-wide agitation against Lord Curzon's unwarranted attack on the veracity of Eastern people in the latter's Convocation address at the Calcutta University (15th February, 1902). In 1905 Rabindranath commenced to discuss in the pages of a monthly journal the burning questions of the day; one such question was raised as to the best means of establishing contact of the masses with public movements and at a meeting of the students Rabindranath delivered an address urging them to organize the villages, in course of which the poet said, "The down-trodden and the despised who have become callous to insults and oblivious of even the rights of their humanity must be taught the meaning of the word, brother. Teach them to be strong and protect themselves and that is the only way. Educate them and show them how to put forward their united strength."

At about this time following the official announcement of Lord Curzon's decision to partition of Bengal (August 7, 1905), Rabindranath threw himself in a fierce blaze of activity. He emphasized, once again, the need of organizing the villages, indicating a programme of constructive, non-co-operation, his passionate patriotism finding vent in a large number of national songs ranging over the entire gamut of patriotic emotions resounding all over the country. He gave up the national prayer to "oppose the power that would plant its banner upon our soul." His trumpet voice was raised in India's prayer:

> Give us power to resist pleasure where it enslaves us.
> To lift our sorrow up to Thee as the summer holds its mid-day sun,
> Make us strong that our worship may flower in love, and bear fruit in work."

The poet addressed, frequently, great mass meetings moving thousands by the magic of his words and songs and thus became the High Priest of the Swadeshi Movement and one of the leading exponents of the new gospel of Nationalism. From a singer of songs he shaped himself into the prophet who could utter flaming words to the assembly,—words that burnt out all that was mean and weak in his countrymen. It was Rabindranath who first preached the duty of eschewing all voluntary associations with official activities and of applying ourselves to the organization of the social and economic life of the country, independently of official help and control. Rabindranath was the first to propound an elaborate scheme for the practical boycott of the administration to the farthest limits.

Freedom to the poet did not mean political freedom only, but freedom in thought, deed and action, in every walk of life. In these sublime lines Rabindranath offered his prayer for his country:—

> Where the clear stream of reason has not died away in the dreary desert sand of dead habit,
> where the mind is led forward by Thee, into ever-widening thought and action,
> into that haven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.

For his motherland the poet wanted "freedom from the insult of dwelling in a doll's world where movements are started through brainless wires, repeated through mindless habits." He abhorred the demon of oppression and shackles of slavery. He could not dream how one nation could be unjust to another. So he was horrified at the Jalianbagh atrocities and his indignation like a heavenly rage mingled with the deepest pain found expression in the poet's famous letter to Lord Chelmsford, the then Viceroy of India, while renouncing his knighthood. "Time has come," said the poet, "when all these decorations make our shame glaring. . . . and I want to stand among my countrymen, shorn of all distinctions." The poet chose to stand by the meek, the lowly and the despised. The reply the poet gave to Miss Rathbone in recent years was another occasion when he chose again to be India's spokesman.

Rabindranath was the singer and prophet of the new nationalism and he was the maker of its sacraments. The idea of Rakhibandhan celebration to affirm the unity of Bengal was his and it was he who pronounced its *mantras*. But when in course of a few years out of the fumes of the Swadeshi movement emerged the spectre of terrorism, the poet uttered his solemn voice of warning, pointing out that this new phenomenon was alien to the spirit of Indian culture and would lead the country to a morass of chaos from which it would be difficult to emerge unscathed.

Rabindranath's nationalism was not a mere abstraction or a fancy. The country to him was a living personality. In his poetry and prose he has written the inner history of his country. But his patriotism was free from the taint of narrow parochialism. Though India was his home he belonged to the world at large. His haven of freedom was "where the world has not been broken up into fragments by narrow domestic walls." He placed his love of mankind above all local attachments. He said in one of his poems, "There is only one race in the world, that is the human race." His correspondence with the Japanese poet, Noguchi, is an eloquent testimony to the fact that China was as dear to him as

his own country. To him the world was one family. The Hindus chanting the Vedas on the banks of the Ganges, the Chinese meditating upon the Analects, the Japanese worshipping the Buddha, the Christians convinced of Christ's meditatorship, the Arab reading the Quoran were all but the symbols of the "One" whose smile kindles the universe, that Beauty in which all things work and move.

Rabindranath wanted his country to march forward and not to lag behind; he wanted his nation to be quickened into a new life and to be inspired by a high ideal—the ideal of freedom and sacrifice. In his life's work he wanted to put before his countrymen the great motto of strength and courage—"I will not be afraid; when the tempest comes, I will not give up hope."

Some Aspects of Indian Industrialization

BY MR MODALE CHACKO PHILIP, B SC. (ENG.), LOND., A C G.I., A.I.I A.

THE progress of the present war has brought into bold relief the wide divergence that exists between the actual and the potential productivities of the various countries of the world. In the case of no country is this divergence so marked as in the case of India. Rich in natural resources, with an abundant supply of man-power as well as of brain-power, and a market, which should be sufficiently inviting even to the most cautious capital, ready at hand, she has the potentialities of a great industrial nation, yet, to-day she remains one of the "backward areas" of the earth.

In this connection, it is well to remember the importance of the technical industries to a nation. Not only do the technical industries provide employment on a large scale, but they are superior to others in two ways. First, they utilize the maximum of brain-power and one generally also more pleasant to perform. Secondly, they yield, on the average, higher wages and profits, and are conducive to a higher standard of living.

This material and cultural superiority of the technical industries has been recognized by most Governments of our day but by none more fully than the Nazis in Germany. Hitler's New Order envisaged that "the superior industries, which yield the highest price per labour-hour, in which scientists, technicians and craftsmen find most ready employment and which are vital to preparing for and waging war, should be monopolized by the Herrenvolk."

The development of technical industries necessitates for their products a reliable market. The larger the market, the easier it is to employ modern mass-production methods and reduce the cost of production to a minimum. As far back as 1926, Mr. Herbert Hoover, the former Secretary of the Department of Commerce of the United States, said:

> By volume production made possible through a great domestic market, we have been able by repetitive processes to apply or focus every advance into standard commodities of high quality and low costs of production.

There is no market on which a nation can rely more permanently than its own home market; in India, we are fortunate in having one of the biggest markets in the world.

The advent of the present war, with its emphasis on the technical industries, led many to hope that radical changes might be effected in the industrial structure of this country; and particularly, that impetus might be given to the establishment of those heavy industries which form the very foundation on which the industrial structure of a country may be built. Unfortunately, these hopes are far from realization. The position of India, after three years of war, has been summed up by Dr. P. S. Lokanathan as follows:

> The contrast between India and Australia and Canada has been striking. Starting from an initially worse position than India, Australia has increased her steel production rapidly, and within two years was able to manufacture air-craft, wireless and other articles directly through Government effort and also by inviting British, American and other industrialists to set up factories to replace

imports. In Canada, the Government created seven Government-owned Corporations, four for manufacturing planes, shells, rifles and instruments, one for procuring machine-tools and two for purchasing vital war commodities. In India, even the manufacture of locomotives, already recommended by an expert committee and for which blue-prints were ready, was given up at the last moment on the ground that it was more desirable to import them from abroad.

With the exception, perhaps, of the long-established iron and steel industry and the chemical industry, the contribution of the present war to the development of our technical industries has been negligible. We are still dependent on foreign sources for our major requirements in equipment and plant, whether for machine-making, for power-generation or for transport. It is true that the war has stimulated to some degree, the output of consumers' goods, such as textiles and other articles of every-day use. Fresh demands have been made on Indian industry to meet the needs not only of the Armies of the United Nations, but of the civilian populations in India, as well as in other countries, which have been cut off, from their former sources of supply owing to military operations or to shortage of shipping.

It must be remembered, however, that this increase in output has to be attributed, in general, to an increase in the number of hours worked rather than to any considerable increase in the amount of plant installed or to radical improvements in the technique of production. The long-term effect of the war on India's industrial structure is, therefore, likely to be of less lasting character than would appear at first sight.

It is well to state here that in the major countries engaged in the present struggle, there have been, first, concentration on the technical industries, with reduction in the output of consumers' goods to the barest minimum, and consequent absorption of workers formerly employed in these industries into the technical industries; and, secondly, rapid improvements in the technique of production. The effect of these war-time changes in the industrial structure of these countries is likely to be felt long after the war is over. Not only are these countries assured of an abundant supply of highly skilled workers and technicians, but the emergence of improved techniques of production will ensure that these countries are also industrially highly efficient.

It follows, therefore, that Indian industries must prepare themselves to meet competition of a very severe kind, from the products of other countries, immediately the war is over and normal trade is resumed. Particular attention will have to be paid to increasing industrial efficiency to a maximum by improvements in technique as well as by the provision of highly-trained personnel; labour will have to be kept at a high pitch of efficiency through schemes of labour-welfare and attention to the human factor in industry.

A great deal has been heard in recent years about the planning of Indian industry. The National Planning Committee defined planning as follows:

> Planning, under a democratic system, may be defined as the technical co-ordination, by disinterested experts, of consumption, production, investment, trade and income distribution, in accordance with social objectives set by bodies representative of the nation. Such planning is not only to be considered from the point of view of economics and the raising of the standard of living; but must include cultural and spiritual values and the human side of life.

While the attainment of national self-sufficiency and improvement in the standard of living of the people are admirable objectives, the writer has his own doubts whether the wholesale control of industry by the State would be all to the good. While the formation of combines and the concentration of economic power in the hands of "big business" may have its drawbacks—and under certain conditions, may indeed be capable of doing harm to the community—it is doubtful whether State-controlled industry can provide the individual with sufficient opportunities for the exercise of his initiative and enterprise, which in the past have been the driving forces behind many of man's achievements in the industrial sphere. Moreover, the creation of a large army of bureaucrats, inevitable under a system of State capitalism, is hardly likely to be conducive to that free

development of democratic institutions which we all so ardently desire in this country. The record of bureaucracy has not been a good one in any country and it has, in the past, been associated with autocratic methods, red-tape and inefficiency and not infrequently, with nepotism and corruption Industry also has had its share of nepotism, but it will be for the industrialist of the future to ensure that full equality of opportunity is made a reality in industrial establishments.

The writer does not wish to under-rate the importance of planning in a country like India, where it can be of tremendous value in determining the nature and extent of industrial development necessary to serve the interests of the people. Some degree of State control of industries may be desirable and even necessary, but sufficient latitude must be allowed for private enterprise to exercise its initiative and show its work, at any rate in the manufacturing industries.

There is one field where planning can *be of real value in this country and concerns* the regional distribution of industry. The location of industries in India, as in other countries, has not followed any definite plan, but has been dictated by the exigencies of the moment. The cotton industry grew up in Bombay and Ahmedabad mainly because these plants were near to the cotton belts, and the rich merchants and the entrepreneurs with capital happened to reside at these centres. It was not surprising, therefore, that the Indian cotton industry tended to become concentrated in these areas. Similarly, the engineering industry tended to be confined mainly to Bengal and to Calcutta, in particular. These developments gave certain advantages to the inhabitants of these localities inasmuch as these industries provided employment for thousands in these areas; advantages also accrued from ancillary industries which grew up in these areas, as well as from the general prosperity resulting from the increased circulation of money. And while these industries were working on an All-India basis, selling their products to all parts of India, the share of the inhabitants of other areas in the wealth produced at these centres was negligible, if not non-existent. True, many an enterprising young man from other parts of the country ventured forth these to centres of production and often, like the proverbial Scot in England, rose to occupy key positions. This immigration of men from other provinces, however, tended to be regarded with suspicion, if not resentment, by the local population. Even the growth of nationalist sentiment has not been entirely successful in reconciling them to this state of affairs.

It will be for the future framers of the industrial development of India to arrange for the proper regional distribution of industry, so that every part of India may be assured of its due share of the national dividend, resulting in uniform improvement in the standard of living throughout the country. Above all, it will be for the entrepreneur of each region to come forward, to show the same enterprise as his Bombay or Calcutta compatriot, and thus ensure that his own particular region shall not remain one of the "backward areas" of India.

FACE THE FOOD PROBLEM

BY MR. M. BALASUBRAMANIAN, B.A. (Hons.)

TO-DAY we are facing perhaps the greatest and most complex problem this country has ever had. It is the problem of food. It has already taken too long for the public to recognize its serious and far-reaching consequences.

The problem has two aspects, (1) feeding the people here and now and (2) preventing the recurrence of this disaster.

Slogans such as "Grow more food" are all very well in their way. But we should understand it is not only more food we should get. We must provide the best kinds of food measured not by their money value but by their body-building and health giving power.

Since Indian agriculture is in a backward state and since the state of nutrition is

far below the normal, the phrase "marrying agriculture and health" coined by Mr. S. M. Bruce has a special significance for India.

The Indian food problem can be solved if we know (1) what the people eat and what they *should* eat, (2) how much we produce and how much we *should* produce and (3) how we can produce enough, and distribute it equitably.

WHAT DO WE EAT ? WHAT SHOULD WE EAT ?

The results of dietary and nutritional surveys carried out in India show that the diet of the masses is composed of cheap cereal foods and lacks green leafy vegetables, fruits, meat and other products rich in essential food factors.

Of all the disabilities from which the masses in India suffer, malnutrition is perhaps the chief. It is the most far-reaching of the causes of disease in India. The high mortality in a crisis like the present, shows the great importance of not only food but proper food. The prevalence of malnutrition is the result of poverty, ignorance and scarcity of protective foods.

Any diet fully adequate for health and conforming to the dietary standards laid down by experts must be based on whole cereals and include a high proportion of protective foods, *e.g.*, milk, meat or fish, eggs, green leafy vegetable and fruits. Among the protective foods, milk stands supreme. In other words, Indian dietic deficiencies can be made good by the addition of some milk, a few fruits like country guava or papaya or tomatoes or two or three Indian gooseberry, eggs for children and fish for adults, a few ounces of green leafy vegetables and replacement of a part of the rice by ragi and pulses.

DOES INDIA PRODUCE ENOUGH FOOD ?

It is admitted that data of food production in India is far from satisfactory. The available data shows that the people lived in a state of semi-starvation in peace time and home production was supplemented by imports. But now the jolt of war has thrown large sections of people over the precipice. To meet national food requirements on the basis of the available data, we require about 80 million tons cereals and millets, 13 million tons of pulses, 8 million tons of nuts and oil-seeds, 12 million gallons of milk, 8 million tons of vegetable oils, 40 million tons of vegetable and 30 million tons of animal foods.

The example of other countries shows that planning is a pre-requisite to national self-sufficiency in food production. In war-time Germany, the dietary was determined by what the German farmer could produce and 85 per cent. self-sufficiency was attained. By doubling the production of eggs, increasing production of wheat, sugar, and meat and with a remarkable development of the fishing industry, Japan has tackled her nutrition problem with vigour. Producing only 80 per cent. of her food England gives her working class a diet as good or better than the middle class diet in India. A deliberate and considered policy based on scientific knowledge can solve the Indian problem and the keynote of the policy should be that our farmers must have our help if they are to give us the food we need so badly.

MAKE INDIA SELF-SUFFICIENT

The production of crops can be increased in two ways. By increasing the acreage of cultivable land and increasing the yield per acre.

The total land area in British India is 667 million acres, of which 232 million acres were sown, 47 million acres lie fallow, 154 million cultivable but not cultivated, 145 million not available for cultivation and 85 million consisting of forest. This works out at '78 acre per capita as against 4'2 in U.S.S.R., 3'3 in U.S.A., and 28'9 in Canada. Land lying fallow and cultivable yet uncultivated should be brought under the plough. It may be a stupendous task involving large sums of money. But the achievements in land reclamation, both in a dry zone and in a water-logged area, should dissipate all pessimistic views. The success of dry farming in 'Utah' is an instance in point. The failure of the monsoon and the consequent famine is a theme too repeatedly harped upon by politicians in England and India. In a brilliant article in the 'Indian farming', March, 1943, Mr. C. H. Parr has suggested ways to cry halt to the stupendous waste of land and water. Says he: "If the flood water of the June and July

and August rains is utilised in September supplementing the rainfall about 20 million acres of land to be found in the arid districts of Eastern Punjab, the Western U.P. and the adjoining Rajputana States can be made to yield large quantities of gram, wheat and barley. It is of the utmost importance that steps should be immediately taken to see that sufficient water from the rainfalls in June, July and August be stored for use in September when rains invariably fail. One hundred and fifty-four million acres of "cultivable waste land" available in India, if cultivated, will increase at least twofold the present level of food production.

The possibility of increasing the yield per acre has not been fully appreciated in this country and the argument that the soil is old and exhausted and is proving the law of diminishing returns is still adduced. That this argument is not valid has been shown by the application of science to agriculture. It is recorded that in the middle of the 13th century the average yield of wheat in Oxfordshire was no more than five bushels per acre but to-day experiments with high yielding varieties under proper manuring and working conditions an yield of 60 bushels per acre has been recorded.

Researches on plant genetics hold out a promise of development to which no modern State can be indifferent. In this country itself Sir T. S. Venkataraman has produced a strain of sugar-cane which yields much more than ordinary strains.

In our own day we have witnessed the menace of prickly pear, being rooted out by the achievement of science. The genetic selection of varieties for immunity and the use of fungicide and insecticide will give man a better control over plant pests and plant diseases.

New food crops of high nutritive value as Soya beans, Sweet Potato (yellow variety), if introduced, will have far-reaching consequences in our social economy as the introduction of potato had in England in the latter part of the 16th century. Soya bean is the best among the pulses and is already popular in other countries. The substitution of yellow variety of sweet potato in place of the white will go a long way in making good the vitamin 'A' deficiency in Indian diet.

The officers of the Agricultural Department have so far been *advising* agriculturists on improvement of agriculture and their demonstration has been mostly confined to seeds and agricultural implements. How far this advice and demonstration was wanted and how useful it has proved, one cannot say. But it is obvious that now is an opportunity for Government to ask these officials—to "grow more food" by entrusting them with uncultivated but cultivable land and giving them necessary facilities—labour seeds, implements, etc.

The development of animal husbandry is of great importance to human nutrition as many of the protective foods are derived from the animal kingdom. The value of milk as a food factor cannot be over-emphasized. As Sir John Orr observes, "Of animal products, the most important for health is milk. Fortunately the milch cow is the most economical transformer of food-stuffs." With the largest number of cattle head our milk supply is far from adequate. Careful breeding and feeding will result in better animals yielding more milk.

What has been said before can help to solve the food problem more in the long run than as it faces us to-day. The first step in solving the problem now is to stop exports. Next comes proper distribution. As Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar observes: "So long as the Central Government is not determined to be strong and to function as a really Central Government, and so long as they do not exercise their control over every grain of rice and wheat in this country, so long as they do not eliminate the hoarder and the profiteer, and so long as they do not eliminate to the largest extent possible the wholesaler from the retail dealer, this question (food question) will remain unsolved."

If the food problem is tackled properly, India will feed the starving millions now and afford an opportunity for developmental work which will serve a large agricultural community and will also fit in with post-war requirements when opportunity and employment will be sought by the men of the fighting forces.

Democracy and Leadership in India

By Mr. R. P. SABNIS, M.A. (Cantab.), F.R. Econ.S.

A Free democratic India is our goal. But are we moving towards the goal? And if we are, are we doing so *fast enough*? *Democracy is the most* difficult form of government: it calls for a high level of intelligence and character in the mass and for a rare combination of great ability and a spirit of complete self-effacement in leadership. If the voters cannot tell which of the two programmes set before them will do greater good to them: if they cannot tell smooth-tongued charlatans from intelligent and honest workers who have the courage to tell them the truth; or if, having both the intelligence to grasp issues and the necessary insight into character, they are prepared to be victims of bribery practised blatantly or subtly, a democratic government can never be efficient and will therefore not last for any length of time. *As regards the leaders of a successful* democracy, they must be men of intellect who have a just understanding of the great questions which a modern government has to solve for the greatest well-being of its people—army organization, the development of industries and agriculture, the institution of efficient systems of education; must be men who can, by their courtesy and tact, induce indigenous as well as imported experts (these have usually their own 'fads' and are rather difficult to deal with) to give the best that is in them to the community either as members of committees or as administrative heads of departments; must be, above all, men who, even if not accepted as leaders or dethroned from leadership after a spell of power, will, without losing temper, be always willing to say out things calculated to have a healthy formative influence on public opinion and to do all the constructive work that they are capable of doing.

That is obviously the ideal. Not even the best democracy in the world either to-day or in the past has been anywhere near the ideal. But it will be very instructive to see what England—one of the better types of democratic nations of modern times and in any case the most familiar to us—has done in the past or is doing now to qualify itself for a democratic form of government. We shall then have an idea of the ground we have to cover.

In a democracy the relations between leaders and followers are like those between the captain of a team and the other players. The captain is elected because he has enough ability and character to command general respect and to call forth the best in others. He is obeyed so long as he is captain. If in exceptional cases he changes for the worse and is found misusing the wide discretionary powers with which he must be invested—of course even he must always obey rules—, he is, in strict obedience to rules, recalled at the proper time, and a new captain is installed. The new captain does not indiscriminately overthrow everything done by his predecessor, but corrects only what has gone wrong. Both the captain and the players have to efface themselves and work for the team. England has, therefore, taken care to encourage her boys and girls to play team games in the right spirit. The spirit of sportsmanship carefully fostered on the playing field is displayed in every-day affairs as also on important occasions in later life. The relations between parents and children, teachers and students, employers and labourers, leaders and followers approximate in a democracy to those between the captain and the players of a team.

Let us take a few illustrations. Wellington hated the very name of Reform. But how did he behave after the Reform Act of 1832 was passed in spite of his opposition which, by the way, occasioned his being mobbed. He knows that though honoured as a national hero at one time, he is not fit to lead a new generation. He, therefore, quietly steps aside and makes way for Sir Robert Peel. He does not sulk and retire from public life, but does everything he can to smooth the way for his successor. Take another example. Walter Long and Austen Chamberlain, competitors for Conservative leadership after Balfour's retirement, uncomplainingly accepted the leadership of Bonar Law when they found their own differences irreconcilable. Thirdly, Asquith is deposed by Lloyd George who owed almost

everything to him. But Asquith realises that he is too much of a philosopher and doctrinaire to prosecute the War vigorously and so does not utter one querulous word. As dignified as ever he continues to lead Liberal opinion after the War and plays fair by helping to put Labour into office for the first time.

Now what are we doing to train ourselves for a democratic government? Unfortunately we must answer: very little indeed. Our home life is still patriarchal· the man or woman in authority an autocrat and the children invertebrates or rebels. Sometimes the other extreme is reached the children are allowed to grow into pampered irresponsibles whose follies, however, must be financed by their hard-worked father. We have to reform this parents must know that they have to rule the house as limited monarchs and the children must know that they are members of a civilized State with duties as well as rights. Wise parents will take care to explain on every possible occasion why certain rules have to be obeyed, why each individual cannot always have his own way, why the interests of an individual have to be subordinated to those of the family when the two come into conflict. Our schools, too, must pay greater attention to the organization of team games which have been sadly neglected. We have a number of very good individual cricketers, but what a sorry show we have been making both here and in England with our squabbles over the election of captains and with the free fights that our players carry on almost on the very pitch? The reason, of course, is that so few boys play games even in the best of our schools that the players who make the school teams become sort of bosses dictating terms to their headmasters foolishly keen more on success than on sportsmanship. Thirdly, we have to take care of our farmers who are the base of our social pyramid. We have been glibly talking from a hundred city platforms of village uplift as if a stupendous problem needing years of strenuous labour and investment of hundreds of thousands of rupees could be solved by a few neatly tuned phrases. A network of missionary societies having as members engineers, scientific agriculturists, organizers of cottage industries, suited to each locality, doctors and teachers must be spread over the country. Merchant princes must give or at least tend liberally to this cause, and Government, if they cannot render monetary assistance, must help the missions in every other way. (To think of reorganizing education over a vast area according to the Wardha plan or any other plan with ill-paid and therefore as a rule incompetent and discontented teachers is to trifle with a serious problem) When the missions will have demonstrated how the farmers can be made better producers, earning more than they need to spend—and it is only in this way that they can be freed from the clutches of money-lenders—then and not till then can we hope to have a stable democratic government. Unless the farmers are able to stand on their own legs financially, they will not be men and they will continue to be fleeced like sheep by money-lenders, Government servants, pleaders and needy political adventurers.

And our leaders? They have only to follow the noble traditions set up by an earlier generation. When the young Tilak denounced in no measured terms the moderation of Ranade as out-of-date, what did the great man with whom the cause was everything and the person nothing do? He admired Tilak as a braver man capable of greater self-sacrifice. Then let our leaders take a leap out of Sir Pherozshah Mehta's book. He resigned his membership of the Imperial Council as soon as he saw that Gokhale would work better in that capacity. More than anything else let them not forget the lesson of the agitation against the Rowlatt Act. For once all our leaders spoke with one voice, and the result was that the British Government with all its mighty armies and armaments was virtually forced to yield. Though considerations of prestige left the Government no option but to pass the hated Act, its duration was limited to three years and even during those three years, nowhere was the Act brought into force. Wild demands for A-stans and B-stans can lead nowhere; a united demand will bring into being a Free Democratic India, one and indivisible.

INDIA'S PUBLIC DEBT

By Mr. V. R. KRISHNA RAO, M.A., M.Litt.

ONE of the most remarkable effects of war on Indian economy is the transition of the country from that of a debtor to that of a creditor. This has been achieved by an extreme tightening of the belt and by a supreme act of abstinence (partly involuntary) on the part of the Indian people. At the beginning of the war, our sterling debt stood at £350 millions and in September, 1943. the same fell to £36 millions while at the same time, India has built up in London sterling assets to the extent of £850 millions.

Side by side with the above transition from that of debtor country to that of creditor country, almost the whole of the sterling debt has been repatriated and this has been replaced by rupee obligations though the transaction has been to a considerable extent financed by the Reserve Bank of India. The rupee value of our sterling debt was in 1938-39 Rs. 450 crores and at the end of 1942-43 this was reduced to Rs. 96 crores. During the current year there has been further conversion leaving only a small amount outstanding.

The effect of this conversion of the external debt into internal debt is to reduce the direct money burden in the form of interest charges on the debt. Thus in 1938-39, the interest charges amounted to Rs. 35·57 crores while the same is estimated to amount to Rs. 31·76 crores in 1943-44. But as the debt in 1943-44 is estimated to be more than Rs. 150 crores above that of 1938-39, the reduction in the interest charges is real and substantial.

As a result of the heavy war expenditure, there has been a considerable increase in the volume of our debt. If we exclude the war contributions and the deposits, the public debt has increased from Rs. 1,158 crores in 1938 39 to Rs. 1,294 crores at the end of 1942-43. This indicates that the Indian war expenditure was financed by a balanced combination of loans and taxes. If we take into consideration the steep rise in the level of prices compared with 1938-39, the 'real value' of debt at the end of 1942-43 is less than what it was at the end of 1938 39.

Next we proceed to the classification of our public debt according to the period of the maturity. The table below gives the classification for the years 1939 and 1942.

TABLE I

END OF MARCH	OVER 10 YEARS	BETWEEN 5 &10 YEARS	UNDER 5 YEARS	TREASURY BILLS
1939	18·2%	15·8%	10·0%	6·5%
1942	27·7%	7·3%	12·4%	14·6%

Thus we find that there has been a striking increase in the proportion of the treasury bills to the total obligations. At the end of 1943, the preliminary estimate puts this proportion at 22 per cent. The Government's reliance upon short-term borrowing and the treasury bills to a considerable extent is a weak point in their loan policy.

So long as the present abundance of funds in the market continue and so long as the currency expansion puts the money market in possession of sufficient funds, it is quite easy for the Government to have a large floating debt at very low interest rates. But the danger lies in the fact that both the short and medium-term debt will fall due for repayment shortly after the termination of the war and for their repayment the Government will have to borrow sums to the extent of Rs. 800 crores in two or three years in the post-war period. This will make money dear. And this will be the period when there will be a great demand for funds from the private enterprises for financing schemes of replacements and development. Therefore the Government's entry into the money market during the first three or four years of the post-war period will mean only handicapping the industrial enterprise in the country.

Further during the war, as it is necessary to draw off the excess purchasing power and also as the most of the debt incurred during the war is permanent one, the finding of the floating debt must be undertaken. Its finding will serve to stem the tide of inflation and will also confer on us the full benefits of our abstinence during the war.

MORE CONVOCATION ADDRESSES

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In our last issue we published excerpts from the Convocation addresses delivered at Bombay, Madras, Nagpur, Mysore and Travancore. Since then more Convocation addresses have been delivered and we make room for excerpts from the addresses of Sir H. P. Mody, Dr. Jayakar, Dr. B. C Roy, Sir Shanmukham Chetti, Hon. Dr. Kunzru, and Mr. S. V. Ramamurthi. [ED. *I. R.*]

NAGPUR: SIR H. P. MODY ON INTER-COMMUNAL HARMONY

THERE can be no future for the country unless the various races and communities within its borders learn to live together. The achievement of that objective will have to be the supreme responsibility of young men and women who receive the impress of a university education and who have learnt to value the virtues of toleration and a broad outlook on life. It is a task which calls for infinite patience and understanding.

It is true that the fragmentation of India will seriously jeopardise her prospect of emergence some day as one of the great Powers; it is equally true that no political framework which is unacceptable to any large section of the population will have a chance of being set up or maintained. Harmony among the various races which inhabit this geographical unit known for centuries as Hindustan thus becomes the most compelling task before us all. I hope the youth of the country will apply themselves to it with evangelic fervour, conscious, as they are, of the injury done to the interests of the country by the eternal wrangles of the politicians of the day and imbued, as they must be, with the sessions of the two most ghastly of wars in all history. The road is long and difficult, there may be any wrong turnings and the goal may elude them, but success must crown the efforts of those who preserve their faith undimmed and refuse to own defeat!

ANDHRA: MR S. V. RAMAMURTHI'S VISION OF ANDHRADESA

A little while ago, I made a pilgrimage to Bhadrachalam, and there saw, enacted as in a vision, a new chapter of the Ramayana. Once more in the Dandakaranya, Lakshmi is held captive by the demons, headed by Masakasura, the Demon Mosquito. Rama stands on the banks of the Godavary and sees Lakshmi wasted in the sleep of Andhra hills, wasted in the mad rush of Andhra rivers, wasted in the purposeless downpour of Andhra waterfalls, wasted in the untapped fertility of the air, wasted in the unused light of the Sun. To rescue her, Rama raises a new army of administrators and teachers, engineers and doctors. Doctors trample on Masakasura and hold him firmly down. Engineers impound rivers, harness waterfalls and bend to their will and purpose the giants of the forest. Teachers teach new learning, new agriculture and new industry. Administrators help to build prosperous villages and famous towns. Lakshmi rises and stands in the centre of the vision, clad in the garb of a homely matron, with a brass pot in the crook of her left arm, with a brass lamp held by her right arm, giving food and light to her children. By her side stands Rama, smiling—He from whom all has come, in whom all live and into whom all shall merge. Towards such a consummation, Andhra graduates, leaders of the coming decades! I ask you to dedicate your vision, will and vigour!

PATNA: DR. JAYAKAR ON EDUCATION AFTER THE WAR

If India had had her own wishes to be drawn into the war with the full assent of her representatives, if later, she had been accorded the position of an equal partner in the active prosecution of the war, if her moral approbation had been secured as a valuable asset in support of the great ideals for which the Allies are said to be fighting, we all, young and old, would not have been here to deliver or listen to Convocation addresses. Like the nationals of free countries amongst the Allies, we would have been on active service, either on the battle-field or elsewhere on the front, each occupied *according to his respective* age and capacity.

The fact is undeniable that, notwithstanding the unfortunate omissions mentioned above, our country has taken a large share in the fellowship of common service and sacrifice. It has in its silent way participated in the hopes and fears of the Allies and it fully shares the increasing hopes of victory which seems now to be only a question of time.

Dr. Jayakar then paid a tribute to Mr. John Sargent, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, and referred to his well-thought-out scheme of educational reconstruction which he commended as being of the highest importance to Indian universities.

The universities must, therefore, take great care to see that Mr. Sargent's plan does not share the fate of similar ones and find itself safely resting in the archives of a somnolent secretariat. It will be the duty of the Indian universities to insist that this scheme is set on foot and carried into early execution with vigour and hope. . . .

ALLAHABAD: DR. B. C. ROY ON UNITY THROUGH CULTURE

If we are to have a durable peace after the war, if, out of the wreckage of the present, a new type of co-operative life is to be built on a global scale, then science and philosophy, the West and the East must play their part

If India is to exist, fulfil its mission and exert *its vital humanising influence* in the world of the future, if she is successfully to withstand the ever-growing competition, she must imbibe the best which the West can give, so that her 'best' may be doubly effective, so that India might assimilate Western ideas to the furtherance rather than to the destruction of her spiritual gifts.

The problem that faces the nations of the East and the West to-day is how to win the war, and at the same time preserve those *intellectual ideals and standards, those* great things of the spirit, without which a military victory would in the end be nothing but ashes. History shows us that it is possible to lose a civilization, while armies and navies are triumphant. . . .

The solution of this problem, namely, the killing of barbarian Fascist dictatorship and all that it signifies and yet saving the soul and culture of a nation, rests with the universities of the world, their teachers, research workers and students.

The peace must mean a better standard of living for the common man, not merely in the United States and the United Kingdom but also in Russia, India, China, Latin America, not merely in the United Nations but also in Germany, Italy and Japan.

BENARES: DR. KUNZRU ON UNIVERSITY REFORM

A high educational authority thinks that "*only 30 per cent. of the University* products can be said to have secured employment of a type which is in keeping with their attainments or commensurate with the time and money which have been spent on their education." This tragic misdirection of energy can be remedied only by a reorganization of the entire educational system, so that its various parts will be properly adjusted to one another and more account will be *taken of the different aptitudes* of the students and the practical needs of the community. *The vocational side of* education which has been largely neglected will have to receive much greater attention than it has unfortunately received so far. It is only then that the pressure on institutions which make provision for general education will be relieved. If our universities are to be comparable to the universities of the more advanced countries, an essential feature of university reform must be the extension of the degree course to three years. Steps must be taken at the same time to improve the quality of the material that the universities get from the high schools by the *addition of a year to the high school* course. This will naturally lead to the *elimination of the intermediate classes*, which are an anomalous feature of our educational *system* at the present time. Education will thus be divided into two *well-marked stages*, each of which will be a complete whole. Simultaneously with the attempts to improve education, generous provision must be made for scholarships which will be sufficient to support those whose means do not allow them to prolong their education.

ANNAMALAI: SIR SHANMUKHAM ON THE STUDY OF TAMIL LITERATURE

At the time that this University was established, great hopes were entertained that the Annamalai University will *henceforth be the centre of the ancient* culture of the Tamil people and that special attention *will be devoted here to* study of and research in the civilization, literature and history of the Tamil country. I may be pardoned for stating frankly that this expectation has not materialised in sufficient degree. In my opinion, this University has succumbed to the temptation to fall in line with the stereotyped pattern. No University in the world can hope to deal in all branches of learning. Great Universities have each established *a reputation in some chosen field of* knowledge. Is it too much to expect that a *University* established in the Tamil country, founded by the munificence of an eminent Tamilian should be looked upon as the repository of Tamil culture? How I wish that this University had developed along lines which would have made it possible for me to-day to *deliver the Convocation address in my* mother tongue!

I do not for a moment belittle the value of the study of English. English is likely to become the language of international contacts, and let us keep up the position that we have given to the English language in our educational system. I do not in the least *regret my study* of the magnificent literature in the English tongue. My point *is that the study of* the mother tongue need not and ought not to be relegated to a minor place. Mastery of more than one language is a valuable asset to the man of culture. *But the value* of the study of a foreign language consists in the extent to which we thereby enrich our own mother tongue.

THE WAY OUT*

BY A "NATIONALIST"

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A terse, ruthless and provocative analysis of the present political situation in India, Mr. Rajagopalachari's brochure, is apt to be misunderstood at first sight by Indians whose minds are trained to move in the conventional orbit. The irresistible logic of the stand taken up by the author will emerge only if the booklet is read more than once. The handicap to an unbiassed and correct assessment of the situation is undoubtedly the continued incarceration of Indian Leaders but as the author points out, mere inaction will not help to get them out. The underlying appeal is to save the future by sacrificing, if need be, some of the prestige of the present. The argument that you cannot ask Britain to coerce Indian political parties and the States and reduce them into one United India, is a new one coming from a nationalist leader of the eminence of the author. That Britain should vitally assist in the establishment of self-government in India was the background behind Indian political demands, a background which was not obliterated by the demand for complete Independence adopted by the Congress some sixteen years back. A real spirit of compromise cannot come into play so long at any rate as some of the contending parties can look to an outside arbiter to settle their disputes and if the continued presence of the outsider is a bar to an understanding amongst Indian parties, it is only right that we cannot ask for the outsider's influence to whittle down the inherent rights of the parties so as to reduce them to an United India. Mr. Rajagopalachari's review of the States' issue and the Muslim issue, independent of the existence of a fairy-godmother in Britain assisting our destinies, removes the cobwebs that have all along been clouding the vision of Indian patriots.

The author stresses on the need for India's post-war problems to be managed by a real Indian Government without the period immediately after the termination of the war being wasted in political controversies and he rightly points out that the present autocratic regime in the centre and in many of the provinces will not of their own accord vanish immediately the war comes to an end but will continue to exist for some considerable time thereafter until our political controversies are ended. Secondly, he points out that no ideal and complete solution of our internal problems is ever likely to arise all of a sudden and that any solution to begin with, must necessarily be synthetic with all the drawbacks concomitant to a solution of that nature. It is a realisation of these two all-important factors in the situation that compels him to ask the Indian public to take Britain at its word and accept the Cripps Offer, which British politicians assert is still there to be taken up by India.

*The Way Out. By C. Rajagopalachari. Oxford University Press. G. A. Natesan & Co. Price Annas 8.

BOOKS RECEIVED

LITERATURE AND AUTHORSHIP IN INDIA. By K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar. George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London.

SCIENCE, CAUSE AND GOD. By J. B. Freeman, Chingleput. Rs. 7-8.

BEHIND THE MUD WALLS. By Freda Bedi. The Unity Publishers, Lahore. Rs. 5.

BHASHA. By Shahid Pravin, Record Publishing Co., Calcutta.

INDIA AND INTERNATIONAL CURRENCY PLANS. By V. K. R. V. Rao. S. Chand & Co., Delhi. Re. 1-8.

PRINCIPLES OF ECONOMIC PLANNING. Edited by Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, Eastern Economist, Ltd., Connaught Circus, New Delhi.

TAGORE AND HIS LIFE CAMPAIGN. By R. I. Paul, Tagore Memorial Publications, Lahore.

COCHIN: An Album containing a description of Cochin State and of its war activities with numerous portraits and illustrations. Edited by V. K. K. Menon, B.A., Bar.-at-Law. War Publicity Department, Ernakulam.

MEGHADUTA IN ENGLISH VERSE. By D. C. Datta, M.A. Garg Book Company, Jaipur City.

GRAMIN ARTHASASTRA. By Sri Amar Narayan Agrawal, M.A. Published by Rao Saheb Ramdayal, Agarwala, Allahabad.

LET INDIA FIGHT FOR FREEDOM. By K. A. Abbas. Sound Magazine Office (Publication Dept., Bombay).

REPORT ON THE MARKETING OF LAC IN INDIA (Agricultural Marketing in India.) Manager of Publications, Delhi. Re. 1-4.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

WAR AND INDIAN ECONOMY. By Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao, Kitabistan, Allahabad.

In this valuable and timely book, Dr. V. K. R V. Rao discusses at great length the influence of the present war on our economic position in all its aspects, including Currency, Industry, Trade, Agriculture, and Transport. Compared to what has been achieved in other countries at war, the mobilization of men, money, and material for war purposes in India has been wrong in principle and ill-conceived in policy. As Dr. Rao rightly observes, "A National Government is as necessary for the successful handling of post war problems as it is for handling the problems of war economy". "The nature and effectiveness of war-time economic policy is conditioned by the political background against which it is planned and executed."

We have in this book a clear analysis of all aspects of the structure of Indian War Economy. In many places, Dr. Rao hits the nail on the head. This is a book that every one should read in order clearly to understand our current economic problems.

LETTERS FROM JAIL: (Fragments of a Prisoner's Diary—vol. iii) by M. N. Roy. Published by The Indian Renaissance Association, Ltd, Debra Dun. Rs. 2 8.

These letters of Mr. M. N. Roy to his wife from August 11, 1931, to November 20, 1936, are all rich with human interest. Mr. Roy is a politician, but it is Mr. Roy, the keen student, that is revealed here on every page. A devouring thirst for knowledge runs through these letters, and it is amazing to note the variety of subjects he takes interest in, and the shrewd observations he has to make on them all. Intimate pictures of the life of a prisoner, his pathetic efforts to satisfy his human instincts by growing a box of flowers or tending a cat, his hopes of release, and hankering after news outside, are all here vividly pictured.

THE TELL-TALE PICTURE GALLERY. Occult Stories by H. P. Blavatsky and W. Q. Judge. International Book House, Ltd., Bombay. Rs. 2.

Those who are interested in Theosophy, Psychic Research and Occultism will find ample food for thought in these interesting stories which are impressively narrated by the late Madame Blavatsky, founder of the Theosophical Society, and the late W. Q Judge, her colleague. They preserve an aroma of weird reality and deal with strange psychic experiences and spiritual phenomena. Though many of these stories are reprints of old magazine contributions, they are extremely lively reading. We get also the dash and sombre aspects of occultism in stories like "The Serpent's Blood", "The Cave of Echoes", "The Magic Screen of Time" and "The Ensouled Violin" which produce frightful nightmarish visions and considerable disquiet in the minds of the general reader uninitiated in the mysteries of Theosophy.

THE IVORY TOWER by S. R. Dongerkery; published by The East and West Book House, Baroda, sold by The Popular Book Depot (Regtd.), Bombay. Rs. 2.

Mr. Dongerkery is evidently a poet who, in his leisure hours, happens to be the Registrar of the Bombay University. His main occupation is or, should be, writing beautiful lyric verses. He gives a bunch of them here under the three subject titles—Love, Beauty and Truth.

> His heart will throb to every tune
> That nature's softly chiming
> And with her heart he will commune
> Through verses sweetly rhyming.

His muse is kept confined in a thin-walled Ivory Tower built by fairy hands with thoughts' creative power and takes rainbow flights of fancy ranging over the universe.

> He gathers moonbeams from aloft,
> And weaves from them a saree bright,
> That she might wear it, shining soft,
> Like silvery cloud on moonlit night.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Defence Rule in England and in India

SIR OSWALD MOSLEY, who was *released from detention the other* day, is considered by many influential groups in England as Public Enemy No. 1. Opposition to the release of this Fascist leader has been pronounced and consistent, but that has not deterred the Home Secretary, Mr. Herbert Morrison, from defending Government action with commendable vigour. Not to set free Sir Oswald under certain restrictions, said Mr. Morrison,

> would involve a grave danger to the maintenance of a constitutional democratic Government and would be pure and simple abuse of the extraordinary powers conferred upon the Executive by Parliament.

This explanation apparently failed to satisfy certain members of Parliament on the ground that Sir Oswald

> had made no public recantation of his views and was still believed to be anxious to perpetuate racial prejudice and persecution

like the Nazis. Government, however, refused to yield to the clamour and Mr. Herbert Morrison reiterated his plea and told the House that

> in view of the improvement in our national fortunes the further detention of men like Sir Oswald Mosley was not necessary.

And he concluded with the unexceptionable observation that if a person was to be kept under detention solely for his opinion, then "they were endangering civil liberty." These are wise words and we only wish they were applied with equal logic to the situation in India.

Indians in South Africa

In refreshing contrast to the fire and fury emitted by the Boer press in South Africa and by reactionary agencies of South African Whites, at least one member of the Union Government, Mr. Clarkson, Minister of the Interior, has taken a sensible view of the Indian settlers' demand. In reply to the deputation of the Natal Indian Congress recently, he observed :

> We cannot expect the Indian population, which now equals the European population in Natal, to be voiceless in the control of municipal and State affair.

The Suspension of Prohibition

The proposal of the Government of Madras to suspend Prohibition from the New Year has called forth numerous protests from all parts of the Presidency. District Boards, Municipalities, Leaders of all Parties, Hindus, Muhammadans, Christians and European Missionaries have all alike condemned in no unmeasured terms the ill-advised step taken by the Madras Government. Mr. Chenchiah, retired Judge *of Pudukottah, who presided the other* day at a largely attended meeting of the Prohibition Conference at the Victoria Public Hall, Madras, very rightly pointed out that "the sentiment in favour of Prohibition and consequently opposition to any attempt to suspend it, transcends all communal, religious, partisan and political limitation."

The executive reversal, without consulting public opinion, of a statute placed on the statute book by a popular legislature carries its own condemnation with it.

Nor is there anything in the reception of the statute by the public and in the history of its administration till now that *suggests any necessity for its repeal.* During the early periods of its administration, the official chiefs of the districts where it was in force, both British and Indian, bore ample testimony to its good effects on the masses, on public morals and domestic economy. Mr. A. F. W. Dixon, Collector of Salem, concluded a review of the first year's administration of *prohibition in these words:*

> Experience has, however, shown that both economically by way of an improved standard of living and reduction of indebtedness and socially by way of a better home-life, a better outlook on life and steadier and more stable character, there has been a marked improvement which is specially noticeable among the poverty-stricken classes Prohibition is not a panacea of all ills. It does, however, remove one of the main causes of indebtedness, semi-starvation, unhappiness and degradation in that large section of the community which lives a hand-to mouth existence.

What has happened since to belie these words of a civilian who bore such eloquent testimony to the benefits of Prohibition !

Has Congress failed?

Evidently the propaganda against Gandhi and the Congress is being over-done. In what purports to be a historical survey of the years 1918—1939, a so called "Student of Public Affairs" has made a very unsuccessful attempt to besmirch the name of Gandhi and the Congress. He does not realize what must be apparent to any reader, that this is yet another of those black pamphlets whose design is merely to make the worse appear the better reason. Printed by the *Times of India Press*, the pamphlet is at pains to prove that the Congress before it came under the leadership of Gandhiji was a really nationalist body aiming

> at a system of Government similar to that enjoyed by the self governing members of the British Empire and for a participation by the people in the rights and responsibilities of the Empire on equal terms with those members

To this "Student of Public Affairs" Gandhiji is the evil genius who had upset everything and has brought about the present miserble state of affairs in the country. The attempt has failed by reason of its over-emphasis on the so called failure of the Congress A more judicious and well balanced criticism of the Congress would have carried conviction. But this attempt at a complete caricature of an undoubtedly great man and a great institution has had just the opposite effect on the reader. And the reader is left in no doubt as to the sinister motive that must have incited the author to perpetrate this folly at a time when paper should be more sparingly and judiciously used! Referring to some people who hold that the struggle of the past twenty five years has been an heroic fight by a subject people against a mighty Empire unwilling to part with power, the writer says

> Others will take precisely the opposite view and see in the struggle we have recorded an equally resolute determination of a great nation, in the face of unremitting obstruction to part with power and hand over responsibility to a people, whose chosen leaders have been unwilling to accept it.

That is to say, for the past twenty-five years, Britain has been fighting against the tyrannous Congress, in order to bestow freedom on India! Surely it is too much to expect the reader to swallow this stuff!

Mr. Amery's Bluster

It is evident, the incorrigible Mr. Amery is becoming as unpopular in England as in this country whose affairs he has mismanaged almost beyond repair, so long at least as he is allowed to stick to his office in Whitehall. His anti-Indian policy—and what is worse—his amusing and doubtless insulting interpretation of his own action have caused considerable furore even in his own constituency. At Birmingham the home of the Chamberlains he was heckled and shouted down for his amazing explanation of the progress of famine in Bengal. When a whole province is dying of starvation it is too much to expect any sensible audience to swallow any explanation for the summary rejection of Canada's offer of 100,000 tons of wheat. People can't be made to believe that the famine is "primarily an act of God" any more than they could accept the air blitz on London as an act of God. But his annotation of the Atlantic Charter is quite a joke and a record for casuistry. He assures the world that the Atlantic Charter applies to India. He says he has never been able to understand "why the legend is propagated that we did not mean to apply the Atlantic Charter to India" and goes on to point out that the Cripps Offer was the embodiment of the principles of the Atlantic Charter and that he could not conceive "of a more complete application of it than was contained in the declaration expounded to India by Sir Stafford Cripps". He claims further that in regard to India, Britain has been experimenting in the principles long before the formal Atlantic Charter was thought of.

If this is so, it will be an eye-opener to all nations says Mr. Munshi, as to what they have to expect under it after the war.

Perhaps the American public and the Britishers who are not taken in by the official propaganda will have to say something about the manner in which their Atlantic Charter is being whittled down to suit British imperialistic aims.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Teheran Conference

MARSHAL Stalin, President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill at their historic meeting in Teheran early last month planned a Super Second Front to annihilate the German war power and bring early victory. They reached complete agreement as to the scope and timing of the operations to be undertaken against Germany from the East, West and South. They promised that the attack on Germany would be relentlessly increased in weight from sea, land and air, and the second front, which is now awaiting the zero hour signal, will be co-ordinated with further attacks from the East and South. The plan laid, coupled with the Far East decisions already taken in Cairo, was a plan for global victory. In four days of the most intensive conferences the three statesmen thrashed out momentous military and political plans for winning the war and the peace. The collaboration of the three great powers is held to determine the destinies of Nations in the Post-War world. The Twentieth Century Magna Carta holds out a promise to the downtrodden peoples of the total and ruthless elimination of Fascist tyranny, slavery, oppression and intolerance.

Chinese and U.S. Citizenship

The Senate recently passed the Magnuson Bill repealing the 61-year-old Chinese Exclusion Acts and thus placing Chinese immigrants on quota basis and making them eligible for United States citizenship. This measure which has already been passed by the House of Representatives has obtained President Roosevelt's signature and has thus become Law.

A New Status for Free Indo-China

The Commissioner for the Colonies in the French National Committee, M. Rene Pleven, has pledged the liberation of Indo-China from the Japanese and drastic reforms of the Indo-Chinese political and economic system.

"France intends to give Indo-China a new political status in the midst of the French community."

The Australian Commonwealth

The Australian Commonwealth Cabinet has recommended that extended constitutional power for the Federal Government for a five-year period after the war should be sought by referendum.

The powers to be sought would give the Commonwealth authority to deal with repatriation, employment, marketing of commodities, uniform company legislation, trusts, combines, monopolies and profiteering and also control of secondary production, air transport and unification of railway gauges.

The powers demanded conform to those unanimously accepted by the constitutional convention held last December but subsequently not ratified by certain States.

French Mandate over Syria

Gen. Catroux has signed an agreement with the Syrian and Lebanese Governments following week-long negotiations under which France transfers to the Syrian and Lebanese Governments all legislative and administrative functions hitherto exercised in the name of the two countries as a mandatory thus ending the controversy which has caused the recent crisis.

The main subject involved is a matter of common interest comprising of Customs, Posts and Telegraphs whose net income in 1942 exceeded 12 millions. The proceeds will thus be passing to the Syrian and Lebanese hands.

Strike in U.S. Steel Industry

President Roosevelt has appealed to steel workers and to the companies where steel production has been halted to keep working and operating under the old contracts until the differences can be adjusted peacefully. He promised steel workers that any wage increases they received would be retrospective to the date of the expiration of their contracts. At the same time, he told the companies that increases in the price of steel will be considered if the wage increase given to workers caused undue burden to the companies. It is estimated that 75,000 workers are taking part in scattered strikes in the steel industry.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

RANADE THE FATHER OF INDIAN ECONOMICS

The Eastern Economics has a penetrating study of Mahadev Govind Ranade and his contribution to Indian economic thought by Mr. D. G Karve. Ranade was a pioneer in many respects but his interpretation of Indian economic needs and aspirations has stood the test of over forty years of controversy since his death. His revolt against British economic thought as applied to India and his realization of the dreadful economic consequences of India's political subjection are tersely expressed in his own words.

The great Indian dependency has come to be regarded as a plantation, growing raw produce to be shipped by British agents in British ships, to be worked into fabrics by British skill and capital, and to be re exported to the dependency by British merchants to their corresponding British firms in India and elsewhere.

Ranade was a close student of the currents of economic thought in the contemporary world and he was a sad witness of the ruin and disintegration brought on Indian economy by the "Let alone" policy of the State.

As a matter of fact, this so called let alone policy was a policy of "Don't care" so far as Indian interests were concerned The interests of British businessmen in India were not only properly protected but actually subsidised by the Government.

For Ranade Economics was a science of national wealth, both the words, national and wealth being equally significant.

The doings of individuals had relevance to a study of economics only in so far as they explained the process of the community's striving for welfare. Holding such views on the subject, Ranade had no difficulty in sympathising with List's dictum that the permanent interests of a nation were far more important than the immediate advantage of individuals.

Judging from the past record of India and other Eastern countries, Ranade felt that when the advantages conferred on the West by the progress of science were assimilated by the Easterner s industry would return to its natural home, the East, where raw materials, abundant labour and assured markets could always be found.

Ranade, of course, had a special grouse against the British Government in India who while supporting absolutism in economic science were enthusiastic advocates of relativity in political matters.

While economic liberty was advocated as a panacea for India's economic evils an autocratic system of political administration was upheld on the grounds of the traditions and habits of the people. Further while economic liberty, *i.e.*, non-interference in economic matters by the State, was the declared policy of the Government, British capitalists were encouraged by a guarantee of interest to undertake railway construction in India.

He asked:

If in politics and social science, time and place and circumstance the endowments and aptitudes of men, their habits and customs, their laws and institutions and their previous history, have to be taken into account, it must be strange indeed, that in the economic aspect of our life one set of principles should hold good everywhere for all time and place and for all stages of civilization.

Ranade as a work-a-day publicist handled many questions of public, economy, *e.g.*, land revenue, rural credit, federal finance, tenancy legislation, internal and external colonization. The main object of his efforts at rousing economic opinion in the country was to make the people and the State industry-minded.

Ranade's views on land revenue are well known. The following quotations contain these in a nutshell.

"We have always maintained, and will continue to maintain till there is no occasion left for it, that the State has no proprietary rights in cultivated or waste lands, and that its interest is confined to a claim for a share of the produce, which may be more or less onerous, but is not of the nature of a monopoly or differential rent,

And

a permanent ryotwari settlement fixed in grain which the land produces and converted into money values every twenty or thirty years can alone furnish a solution of this agricultural problem."

Thus in his scheme of modernisation, agriculture figured along with industry and commerce.

But the humanitarian, the politician, economist and the social reformer in Ranade all combined to impel him to concentrate on the necessity of industrializing the economic life of the country.

INDIA'S POVERTY

Commenting on the "Indian Famine" *The Economist* expresses the opinion that there is no prompt cure for India's ills. It adds:

The only solution of Indian poverty, as of poverty of all teeming backward areas of the earth, is increased productivity, more output per person to consume or exchange for consumers' goods. The basic principle of the Hot-springs Conference declares that the industrial transformation occurring in some Indian cities due to war offers no solution. The long-term solution can only be found by raising industrial and agricultural productivity side by side with making it possible for rural workers to buy more and more products of town or village manufacture.

Pointing out that an agrarian revolution cannot be accomplished in a year or decade, the article stresses the view outlined by the Gregory Committee that the immediate requirement is to increase supplies of food and other necessities and make them available for the poor. It declares prices have been pushed up by many causes and official British explanation started by Mr. Amery and others "is a nice blend of statistical and political special pleading". Mr. Amery claims that "substantial" quantities of shipping were allotted to take food to India early this year.

But nothing that is known to the Gregory Committee or anyone else about the actual imports bears this out and there is no evidence that demands for tonnage commensurate with the famine that was already spreading years ago have ever been made to Allied shipping authorities in London and Washington.

Pointing out that constant harping on "Indian hoarding black markets and Indian *maladministration*, *all admittedly* factors in the crisis, gives no promise of stronger or more effective or more responsible policy," the article continues that efficient distribution of food supplies is only possible if the authorities can take control. The flaws in the official attitude had been the belief that the worst could be prevented by the same planned distribution which in peace time held famine back.

The only real cure is an economic revolution in country and town as wide-ranging and drastic as the modernisation of Russian agriculture by co operative means and with State capital. But even if the *British in the last period of their* expiring lease in India can do little more than scratch the surface, they can at least begin the process of reconstruction and they must all the more give every proof that they are doing all possible both now and for the future.

VITAMINS

There are no current medical problems that are more *discussed by people now*-a-days than those of nutrition. And of all substances of nutrition, the value of vitamins has only of late been recognized in adequate measure and steps are taken to *supply the deficiency, as the only* panacea for disease and untimely decay and death. What is a vitamin? Mr. F. S. Pen, discussing it in the *New Review* says:

Vitamin is an individual chemical compound *found as an accessory food factor, which, though* minute in amount, has a far-reaching effect on the well-being of the organism. It should be noted that vitamins do not nourish the body and thus may be compared to drops of oil lubricating a machine. Their deficiency lays the system open to attack on many fronts.

No final answer could, however, be given to the question, How many vitamins are there?

Those so far discovered have been unfortunately *named by the letters of the alphabet; vitamin* A, B1-5, C, D1-3, E, K, P instead of after some striking characteristic f. i. growth-promoting vitamin in place of vitamin A or ascorbic acid in place of vitamin C. We know the chemical elements of some; others have even been synthesized and standardized in the laboratory and are on sale.

Many plants manufacture vitamins. At one time it was believed that vitamins, like many other substances of nutrition, could be manufactured *only* by plants, and that animals obtained them by consuming plants.

It is now known that animals can manufacture certain of their own vitamins, given suitable conditions, without getting them from plants. *Certain animal organs, in fact, form the raw* material for the extraction of vitamins. It seems clear now that though some animals require a supply of (say) vitamin C in their diet, others can synthesize it themselves.

After discussing the properties of different vitamins from A to K and the evil effects resulting from their deficiency, the writer points out that in the near future many more vitamins will be established as our knowledge of dietetics *increases*.

Without being fussy about vitamins, one should always aim at a varied diet with as much fresh food, especially vegetables and fruits, *as possible*. Uncooked foods of this sort are very desirable as long as they are wholesome and palatable. Cooking 20 30 minutes destroys most of the vitamins. Salt intensifies this destruction and therefore should be added *after* cooking.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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Dec. 1. Allied leaders' statement on conclusion of Cairo Conference emphasizes war against Japan.

Dec. 2. Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt meet at Tabriz in Iran.

—Ban on *A. B. Patrika* removed.

Dec. 3. Allied army blasting its way to Rome.

Dec. 4. Fifty-six Congress workers arrested in Madras.

Dec. 5. Calcutta bombed by Jap planes.

—Final plan for second front adopted at Teheran Conference.

Dec. 6. Dr. Jayakar unveils late Satyamurti's portrait in Madras.

—Order on *Hitavada* cancelled.

Dec. 7. Mr. V. D. Savarkar elected President of the Silver Jubilee Session of Mahasabha.

—*Communique re.* Turkey's participation in War.

Dec. 8. Smuts, in a statement, envisages great changes after War.

Dec. 9. M MenememJoglu declares that Turkish foreign policy remains unchanged.

Dec. 10. President Roosevelt arrives in Malta.

Dec. 11. Sir John Herbert, former Governor of Bengal, is dead.

Dec. 12. Mr. Hull warns Germany's allies—Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania.

Dec. 13. Commander-in-Chief's broadcast on preparations for offensive.

Dec. 14. Russo Czech agreement signed in Moscow.

Dec. 15. Nawab of Chattari inaugurates Quinquennial Conference of Universities in India at Hyderabad.

—Indian Chambers Federation demands release of leaders.

Dec. 16. The Prime Minister, a bulletin says, is ill.

—Mrs. Gandhi's release is refused.

Dec 17. Allied threat in New Britain.

—Air blitz on Berlin.

Dec. 18. Chiang appeals to Gandhi and Congress leaders to end the deadlock.

Dec. 19. San Pietro taken by Italian troops.

—Fierce battles for Kirovograd.

Dec. 20. Viceroy addresses the annual meeting of the Associated Chambers at Calcutta.

Dec. 21. Mr Brelvi advises formally to form Trade Union.

—Heavy raid on Frankfort.

Dec. 23 Professor Coupland indicts Congress as being responsible for growth of League power.

—South African Mayor protests against municipal franchise for Indians.

Dec. 24 Muslim League meets at Haroonabad (Karachi), Mr. Jinnah presiding.

—Mr. R G. Casey appointed Governor of Bengal.

Dec. 25. Pandit Kunzru criticizes the appointment of an Australian, Mr. Casey, as Governor of an Indian Province.

Dec. 26. Muslim League appoints Committee of action and demands fresh elections to the Legislatures.

—Hindu Mahasabha meets at Amritsar with S. P. Mookerji as President.

Dec. 27. German battleship *Scharnhorst* sunk off North Cape.

Dec. 28. General Franco reprieves 101 men under sentence of death.

—180 political convicts released in Baroda.

Dec. 29. Dr. S P. Mukherji inaugurates centenary celebrations of the late W. C. Bannerji in Calcutta.

—U.S. Government takes over charge of Railways.

Dec. 30. 24th session of the National Liberal Federation meets at Bombay, Sir Maharaj Singh presiding.

—Three German destroyers sunk in the Bay of Biscay.

Dec. 31. Allied raid on Rabaul. Twelve Jap ships sunk in the Pacific.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

E. P. T. IN HYDERABAD

The Nizam has sanctioned the recommendations made by the Government in connection with Excess Profits Tax, according to a *communique* issued recently. The measure is being promulgated in the form of an Ordinance. The *communique* adds that the E. P. T. Bill, as passed by the Legislative Council in July last, provided for taxation of excess profits arising from business and industries in respect of six months in *fasli* year 1350 (April-October, 1941) and *fasli* years 1351, 1352 and 1353 at a uniform rate of 40 per cent. tax and 20 per cent. deposit. No special provision was made by the Legislative Council for any special relief for industries or business concerned with industrial progress or any form of manufacture or production. On representations made by six industrial and commercial interests, Government recommended to the Nizam that no tax should be levied in respect of *fasli* and the rates should be altered in the case of business concerns with industrial and manufacturing processes to 30 per cent. deposit with a view to giving special relief to industries in the State. A further recommendation was that rates applicable to profits of *fasli* year 1351 should, in all cases, be reduced by ½ and recovery at full rate be made in respect of years 1352 and 1353 *fasli*. Business will be taxed at the rate of 40 per cent. with deposit of 20 per cent.

HYDERABAD'S SELF-SUFFICIENCY

That Hyderabad was not only self-sufficient in the matter of food supply but would even have a small surplus, was the assurance given by Mr. S. Fazlulla, Director-General of Supplies, the Nizam's Government, in an address to the members of the Co-operative Union. He also gave out that the total area under cultivation in the State was about 280 lakhs of acres, and the production estimated at about 30 lakhs of tons. Government had under consideration, he said, steps under which every land-holder would be compelled to bring at least two-thirds of his land under food cultivation. Government were also planning the control of the price of *jowar* at Rs. 14 to Rs. 15 per palla.

Mysore

MYSORE, THE IDEAL STATE

"Mysore is full of competent, clean, wide-awake young people," writes *Life*, the well-known American weekly. "It is full of hospitals and social welfare work. It spends $2,000,000 a year on the education of its masses. The City of Mysore is cleaner and more attractive than even most U.S. Cities. A tank system irrigates the back country. Three hydro-electric plants, built by an American, are super-modern.

Mysore produces most of the world's sandal oil. Its gold mine at Kolar, second deepest in the world, has yielded $400,000,000. Mysore has an iron mountain and a steel mill with a 26,000-ton capacity run on charcoal from Mysore's forests. A cement factory turns 25,000 tons a year. Other factories make paper, glass, porcelain, dynamos, bakelite products, chemicals, fertilizers, surveying instruments, soap and silk. The Indian Institute of Science, founded by the late great steelman, Sir Dorabji Tata, is in Mysore.

Mysore's achievement is an Indian feat, though the British got it started. It may be due to the fine temperate weather in Mysore or to a long line of able Prime Ministers or to the character of the Mysoreans. But it is a shining hope for India. And without question the British Raj (rule) in India is proud and glad for what Mysore has done for itself."

HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT

The Government of Mysore, it is understood, have proposed to advance certain items in the Jog Falls hydro-electric project on Mysore—Bombay border, so that a larger block of power than originally contemplated might be available from the outset.

This scheme is designed to generate 64,000 horse-power at an estimated cost of Rs. 358·0 lakhs. The work will be proceeded on this basis and necessary orders will be placed for equipment required with the help of the Government of India in securing necessary priorities for importing equipment from abroad.

Baroda

COMMERCE IN BARODA STATE

The Annual Report of the Department of Commerce of Baroda State for the year ending 31st July, 1941, though its publication is belated, is an interesting compilation, being a comprehensive and clear account of the progress and activities of the Department during the year under review.

One of the most important sections is that dealing with Baroda's harbour, Port Okha. The management of the port continued to be in the hands of the Harbour Board, which held four meetings during the year and passed 67 resolutions. Trade agents were continued at Bombay, Delhi, Ajmer, Lahore and for a part of the year at Burma, to canvass traffic for Port Okha. Total expenditure for the year was Rs. 2,18,472 against a revenue of Rs. 249,188. Owing to the war, there was a decrease of Rs. 1,87,979 in the duty collected according to the British Indian Customs Tariff, and owing to the same reason, fewer steamers called at Okha and there were declines in the tonnages of local as well as foreign traffic.

Besides the State Electric Works at Baroda, Petlad, Gandevi and Okha, 12 private supply undertakings were in operation in the State during the year. The total number of units sold was 58,76,093,430 K.W.H. as against 55,07,312,556 K.W.H. in the previous year.

The Weights and Measures section also functioned satisfactorily. In order to encourage trade in Baroda City, Government acquired certain lands, declared them tax-free zones and parcelled them out into suitable plots, which were sold to merchants.

Jaipur

REFORMS FOR JAIPUR

It is reliably understood that an early announcement is expected about the introduction of constitutional reforms in Jaipur State. The scheme is believed to favour a single chamber called the Legislative Council or the Representative Assembly, more or less based on the Mysore model.

Travancore

TRAVANCORE GOVT.'S ENDOWMENT

With a view to encouraging original research in Sanskrit literature, Hindu philosophy and science, it is learnt that the Government are handing over a sum of Rs. 1 lakh to the Travancore University for an endowment, out of the proceeds of which two prizes are to be awarded. These prizes will be respectively called "The Sri Chitra Prize" and "The Maharani Parvati Bayi Prize". The amount will be invested in an approved manner and biennially out of the accumulated interest, two prizes of not less than Rs. 2,500 and not more than Rs. 3,000 in value each will be awarded.

The "Maharani Parvati Bayi Prize" will be awarded to the author of the best publication relating to any branch of Sanskrit literature or Hindu philosophy produced during the preceding two years in India. "The Sri Chitra Prize" will be awarded to the author of the best treatise in any branch of Pure, Applied or Technological Science, also produced during the preceding two years in India.

PADDY CULTIVATION IN TRAVANCORE

Declaring open the Servindia Travancore Relief Centre at Alleppey, Sachivothama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, pointed out the need for increasing the area under paddy cultivation in the State. He referred to the possibilities of increasing the area by reclaiming the back-waters of Travancore, the scope for constructing and developing navigation canals and the Government's resolve to undertake the project, even at a heavy cost of some crores of rupees. The Dewan hoped the workers of the Servants of India Society would co operate with the Government in working the rationing scheme to be introduced in the State.

Mr. K. G. Sivaswami, who represented the Servants of India Society, requesting the Dewan to declare the Centre open, said that the Centre was at present confined to the feeding of the poor school children and that 2,500 children in each of the taluks of Karunagapally, Karthikapally and Ambalapuzha and 3,700 children in Alleppey town were given a mid day meal, costing Rs. 300 per day.

Cochin

PRESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In accordance with the decision of the Cochin Government to consitute a Press Advisory Committee to be presided over by Mr. M. Sivarama Menon, Press Adviser, a meeting of the Editors of Newspapers published in the State was held recently in Cochin. The three Malayalam Dailies of State each nominated a member. Mr. T. M. Satchit, Journalist was nominated as the representative of the English Press, while Messrs. P. K. Dewer, V. K. Sankaran and Kunnirama Puduval will represent the Malayalam Press. The representatives of the three Malayalam Dailies will be Messrs. T. Thomas, K. Raghavan Nair and Jacob Kithu. Mr. Thomas will be the Convener.

Cutch

CUTCH DEWAN

Lt.-Col. W. F. Webb, the Dewan of Cutch, is retiring and will revert to the Government of India's Political Department. His new appointment will be Political Agent, Malwa. He joined Cutch State service in October, 1941, and during his tenure of office initiated many reforms, including the introduction of graded services, pension and gratuity schemes, and reorganization of ports, customs and the Secretariat.

Bikaner

NEW PREMIER OF BIKANER

The Director of Publicity, Bikaner State, wires: Mr. H. K. Kirpalani, until recently Adviser to the Governor of Bombay, took over charge of office of Prime Minister, Bikaner State, on December 18.

Bhopal

BHOPAL'S GIFTS TO AIR FORCE

On behalf of the Air Council, Air Chief Marshal Sir Charles Portal, Chief of the Air Staff, has warmly thanked His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal for his munificent gifts commemorating the Battle of Britain, which total Rs. 1,10,000.

Indore

INDORE MAHARAJA

The Maharaja of Indore returned to his State from a brief visit to New Delhi. What transpired between him and the Political Department is not known. It is rumoured that his visit was concerned mainly with his anxiety to secure the recognition of his newly-wedded American wife as the Maharani.

Kashmir

RULER'S CONTRIBUTION FOR RELIEF

It is announced that H. H. the Maharaja of Kashmir has made contribution of Rs. 50,000 from his privy purse for the relief of distress caused by the scarcity of food supplies in Jammu. A sum of Rs. 5,000 has been contributed by Her Highness and another sum of Rs. 5,000 is being contributed on behalf of the Yuvaraj for the same object.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, Ltd.

(*Established—December*, 1911)

HEAD OFFICE—Esplanade Road, Fort, BOMBAY.
205 Branches and Pay-Offices throughout India.

Authorised Capital	Rs. 3,50,00,000
Subscribed Capital	Rs. 3,36,26,400
Paid-Up Capital	Rs. 1,68,13,200
Reserve and Other Funds	Rs. 1,49,67,000
Deposits as at (30-6-1943)	Rs. 72,27,68,000

DIRECTORS.

Sir Homi Mody, K.B.E., Chairman, Ardeshir B. Dubash, Esquire, Hansdas Madhavdas, Esquire, Dinshaw D. Romer, Esquire, Vithaldas Kanji, Esquire, Noormahomed M. Chinoy, Esquire, Bapuji Dadabhoy Lam, Esquire, Dharamsey Mulraj Khatau, Esquire, Sir Ardeshir Dalal, Kt. H. F. Commissariat, Esquire.

LONDON AGENTS:—Messrs. Barclay's Bank, Limited and Messrs. Midland Bank, Limited.
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Banking Business of every description transacted on terms which may be ascertained on application.

H. C. CAPTAIN,
Managing Director.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Ceylon

CONDITION OF INDIANS IN CEYLON

The annual report of the Agent of the Government of India in Ceylon for the year 1942, just published, dealing with the conditions of Indian labourers in the estates, states that "on the whole the position in regard to the supply of foodstuffs to estate labourers may be said to have deteriorated considerably towards the end of the year." The report adds:

While on the one hand the reserves on many estates were being depleted at a very rapid rate owing to the non-supply of the ordinary ration to estates whose stocks exceeded two months' requirements calculated on a stringent basis, the actual quantities issued to labourers were substantially reduced on the other as a result of employers following the Government policy of treating kurakkan and other cereals as equivalent to rice, measure for measure. The material reduction in the quantity of rice which was made available was felt as a special hardship as estate labourers had all along been purely a rice eating population.

Many requests for repatriation on the ground of insufficiency of food were made to this Agency by estate labourers during the year, the labourers were informed that repatriation on the ground was not permissible and, in view of the present emergency and the difficulties inherent in the problem of food supply, were advised to stick it out in Ceylon as far as possible.

The report refers to legislative measures passed during the year and efforts made to see that Indian interests were not adversely affected. In the Pawnbrokers' Ordinance, for instance, on representations made to the Minister for Home Affairs by the Agent, the necessary modifications were made to meet the objections pointed out. In regard to the Land Redemption Ordinance, however, which has been passed by the State Council and has received the assent of the Governor, the Indian mercantile community's demand for adequate compensation for compulsory acquisition of lands under the Ordinance was not conceded.

There was an all round increase of 3 cents in the basic minimum rates of wages; and a scheme of dearness allowance varying with a cost of living index figure so as to enable labourers to meet the rapidly changing commodity prices was in operation

South Africa

MR. PATHER'S STATEMENT IN COURT

Mr. P. R. Pather, who was sentenced under the South African Pegging Act, submitted to the Court a lengthy statement reviewing the political position of Indians in South Africa stating that as a result of this conviction under the Pegging Act, the South African Union stood on its trial at the bar of world opinion. Before he was sentenced, Mr. Pather said, "I think that I have made my position clear. I have the right to occupy my own property. Having regard to the fact that a permit was refused, I considered the position in my own interests and in that of my community and I have not made provision to look out for other premises."

The Magistrate, after passing the sentence, said, "I hope you realise it is your duty to publicly abide by the law—the law is there."

Mauritius

MAURITIUS INDIANS

"Mauritius should be an example to the South African Indians, for where once the Indians lived under almost slave conditions, they now have a position of complete equality with the rest of the people," said Mr. K. Hazaree Singh, Labour Inspector, who has left for London to study social welfare work. He said that the descendant of an Indian immigrant was to-day the Advocate General of Mauritius.

Mr. Singh is accompanied by two others. They all have scholarships from the Government of Mauritius and expect to spend two years in London.

China

INDIAN STUDENTS IN CHINA

The first two Indian exchange students to arrive in China have paid courtesy calls on the Chinese Government and cultural leaders since their arrival in Chungking. They are being conducted by representatives of the Education Ministry. They have also been invited to see Chinese plays in which they showed deep interest as they saw much similarity to Indian dramas so far as symbolism was concerned.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS ✱ DEPARTMENTAL ✱ NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

DEMAND BY CHAMBERS' FEDERATION

The Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, in a resolution, express serious concern at the continued detention of the leaders for a period of more than 16 months. The Committee strongly feel that whatever may have been the grounds on which these leaders were detained, the situation in the country to day does not warrant their continued detention but demands their immediate release, particularly in view of the fact that problems of very grave import are facing the country, the solution of which hangs, to a large extent, on the Government securing the general goodwill of the public.

DR. S. P. MUKERJEE'S PLEA

"The only solution of the Indian problem is rigidly to exclude all extraneous considerations, based on caste and religion, from the field of politics", said Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukerjee, presiding over the 26th annual session of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha at Amritsar on December 26.

"We stand for equal political citizenship of all, without any distinction", he continued. "I admit that there are classes and communities which are backward and which have to be given special protection for educational and economic advancement. The constitution itself should guarantee the preservation of religious, social and cultural rights of different classes."

INDIA AND TEHERAN DECLARATION

Commenting on the Teheran declaration in *New Leader*, Mr. Fenner Brockway says:

The political section of the declaration contains little but platitudes. Its sincerity as far as the British Government is concerned can be immediately put to the test. If Mr. Churchill is concerned to end tyranny and realize freedom, he can start with India and the colonies at once. He can remove the ban on the Congress, release prisoners, recognize India's right to Independence and accept a National Government responsible to the Indian people.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

SIR RADHAKRISHNAN'S WARNING

Sir Radakrishnan, President of the Fifth Session of the Quinquennial Conference of Universities in India, which opened at Hyderabad on December 11, observed:

If the sequel to victory is not to be frustration, the urge to return to pre-war habits and procedure in relations among nations, requires to be checked. We need re-education of human nature and reorganization of our political and economic institutions.

If we fight for Empires and race domination, we fight on the wrong side, we fight for tyranny and we belong to Hitler. In one of his recent speeches, Mr. Churchill said, "What we have, we hold". The Minister of Information, Mr. Brenden Bracken, affirmed "people who maintain that pre-war England is dead for ever are making a very great mistake" These are the worst portents for the future. If after victory we revert to our past, if we think of the future in terms of "holding on to what we have preserving our privileges and maintaining our class position at home and possessions abroad, *this war is a criminal waste and the world will be* in flames again."

INDIA'S SERVICE TO THE WORLD

A call to Indian philosophers to re-establish faith in the moral values of life and the dignity of human personality was made at the 18th annual session of the Indian Philosophy Congress which met at Lahore on December 21, by Prof. P. N. Srinivasachari, who presided over the session.

The President, in the course of his address, said:

The dominant character of Indian philosophy to-day as of old is the synthesis of the theoretical and the practical sides of human nature. It is thus both speculative and spiritual.

India's service to the world is the gift of her spirituality. In the words of one of India's leading philosophers, the ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity have a deep spiritual meaning. The freedom of man is the freedom of the self-development of divinity in man. The equality of men implies the recognition of the same Godhead in all human beings, and the ideal of brotherhood is a unity of mind and feeling based upon the inner spirituality of man. Thus the political ideals of the West can be spiritualised. It is up to the Indian philosopher with his age-long tradition for solving world problems to face the present confusion, examine its causes, and point the way out of it.

ALL INDIA MUSLIM LEAGUE

The 31st session of the All-India Muslim League met at Karachi on December 23, Mr. M. A. Jinnah presiding.

Welcoming the delegates, Mr. G. M. Syed, Chairman of the Reception Committee, introduced the term Sindhu as a new synonym for Pakistan—which he defined as the land of the Indus and its tributaries, comprising only Kashmir, N. W. F. Province, the Punjab, Baluchistan and Sind.

Mr. Jinnah, in the course of his address, referred to the achievements of the League during the last seven years and said:

We shall never rest content until we seize the territories that belong to us and rule over them.

Continuing, Mr Jinnah said

Mr Churchill said that he would not preside over His Majesty's Government to liquidate the British Empire I would say voluntary liquidation is more honourable than a compulsory one. It will redound to the honour of the British nation and it will be recognized by us as an act of friendship which has got its value and price for the future But compulsory liquidation will have none of those advantages—and the British Empire will have to be liquidated one day

Mr. Jinnah denied the charge that the Muslim League was indifferent to the goal of Indian independence. He asserted that Pakistan meant freedom for Hindus also because without freedom to the Hindus there could be no Pakistan. It cannot be freedom for one and slavery for another.

INDIAN POLITICAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE

The sixth session of the Indian Political Science Conference had a two day session at Lucknow, which ended on December 22.

The session devoted nearly half of its time to discussion of the problem of post war reconstruction. A number of plans were suggested, some sponsors stressing the necessity of economic and geographical unity of India and preservation of a strong centralised defence force under the Central Government and others favouring the splitting up of the country into a number of autonomous States on cultural and linguistic basis.

Papers were read which discussed in detail the question of labour, education, training for democracy and development of efficient public services in India.

SIR A. HAQUE'S CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Sir Azizul Haque, Commerce Member, Government of India, in his Convocation address to Aligarh University, criticized the way in which Islamic history and culture were taught in Indian text books, and strongly pleaded for much greater attention to the study of that history and culture, declaring that the aim of such study should be to present Islam in its true perspective.

Speaking only as a student of politics, he said no one could fail to recognize the fact that the Muslims of India were to-day united in their demand for political self-determination, and for a free choice of their own future.

Sir Azizul declared:

No planning, no new world order, no reorganization or development of industry, power, or supply is possible to-day without the help of science. No one can deny that there is enough native talent in our country. There is need for India as a whole to take up this work and for a University like that of Aligarh, this should be immediately taken up

If India is to progress industrially, it will require a much greater number of technical personnel fully and adequately trained for such purposes Let not the story be told again that the Muslims have been left behind in the absence of adequate training facilities.

PUNJAB UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

"I have often heard it said that the main hobby of Indian University students is politics. If the description is true, it would not be surprising because the political issues of this great sub-continent contain some of the most interesting and challenging problems in the world. It would be as surprising, as it would be disappointing if students of Indian Universities were not interested in them," said the Rev. Dr D. G. Barne, Bishop of Lahore, addressing the annual Convocation of Punjab University on December 23.

Dr. Barne, however, advised University men and women to do their best to make the political engine run smoothly. "There are rational and civic duties not only for you, yourself individually, but the position to which your education has brought you should make you concerned about millions more, the poor and outcaste people, who should be showing signs of progress as well."

SUPREME COURT FOR INDIA

"I am glad that the British Government has now realized the necessity for a Supreme Court in India", observed Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, President of the Advocates' Association, High Court, Allahabad, welcoming Sir Patrick Spens, Chief Justice of India, to an "at home" given on December 11, in his honour by the members of the Association.

Sir Tej traced the history of the controversy over the question of giving a Supreme Court to India from the time he had participated in the Indian constitutional discussions in London thirteen years ago, when the idea met with unrelenting opposition. The Conservatist element thought it to be a dire calamity. Now that the necessity of a Supreme Court in India was realized, he wished it would be a self-sufficient judiciary.

Sir Tej also warned the Chief Justice of India that when he started the building of this Court, to have it far away from Delhi, "It must be lodged", he said, "in a separate building free from the bureaucratic atmosphere of the Chamber of Princes where the Federal Court was at present housed.

Sir Tej then referred to the selection of the judges and the fixation of their numbers. He felt that the judges were over-strained with work and this was perhaps due to a sense of false economy. He was of the opinion that the selection and the fixation of their numbers should not be left as it was at present in the hands of the Secretary, Deputy Secretaries or Joint Secretary of the Finance Department. The decision, he felt, must be vested in some person or persons holding positions analogous to that of the Lord Chancellor in England and said in this connection that there was no reason why the Chief Justice of India should not in future occupy that position.

Sir Patrick Spens, Chief Justice, replying to Sir Tej, thanked him for his observations, and felt that he had no reason to disagree with them. He assured the members of the Association that he would do his utmost to help the profession and the bar in India.

BRITISH INSURANCE

The Lord Mayor of London, Sir Samuel Joseph, speaking at a luncheon held by the Insurance Institute of London, said that the great British insurance companies and Lloyd's had built up a world-wide reputation for punctilious integrity and fair play in all their actions. They had developed and become ever more competent as time demanded. Their vast resource had been adapted since the outbreak of war, and they had handled on behalf of the Government, with great efficiency, the many and various insurance schemes brought into being against war emergencies. Insurers had given wholehearted support to War Loans and in every conceivable manner within their power they had aided the Government: for all of which no praise was too high—and by all of which they had retained, indeed strengthened, their honourable name.

The future would undoubtedly bring cargo aeronautics to the fore. That had been seen by the recent arrival of an aeroplane tug and glider from America. Insurers would be ready to handle problems of that kind to the benefit of all concerned, and thereby help to re-establish the nation's prosperity, for it was abundantly obvious that foreign insurance premiums formed an invisible export industry. Surplus money so accumulated would assist to reconstitute credit abroad, and it was recalled that it was such funds which proved so useful before Lease-Lend materialized.

The Lord Mayor emphasized the value of the campaign for educating the public to safeguard against fire risks. It was, of course, good at any time, but especially now.

PROVIDENT SOCIETIES

On 1st April, 1943, there were in existence 141 provident societies which had made at least the initial deposit under the Act. The total new business effected by these societies during 1941 was 18,800 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 68,68,000 and total business in force at the end of the year was 69,700 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 1,91,69,000.

PRIZE BONDS

As part of their anti-inflationary drive, the Government of India are issuing prize bonds which will not yield interest but will have the attractions of a State lottery.

The announcement says:

With effect from the 15th January, 1944 and until further notice, the Government of India will issue 5-year interest-free prize bonds, 1949. The bonds will be repaid at par in 1949.

The loan will be in the form of bearer bonds of the denominations of Rs. 100 and Rs. 10 and will not bear interest but half-yearly, a draw by lot under the supervision of the Government of India will take place in respect of each series the sale of which has been completed. Each series will consist of one lakh pieces of Rs. 100 or Rs. 10 denomination to the value of Rs. 1 crore and Rs. 10 lakhs respectively.

The draw for prizes in the completed series will take place on January 15 and July 15 each year commencing from the 15th July, 1944, upto and including January 15, 1949. Prize money will be paid to holders of winning bonds and the prizes will aggregate to Rs. 1,00,000 and Rs. 10,000 each half-year for the Rs. 100 and Rs. 10 issues respectively.

The prize money will be free of income-tax and payment thereof in respect of the Rs. 10 denominations will be made in cash, and in respect of the Rs. 100 denominations the payment will be made half in cash and the balance in the form of current defence bonds or in national savings certificates.

SMALL SAVINGS SCHEME

The Finance Department of the Government of India have launched a scheme to encourage savings to be known as the "Small Savings Scheme", says a press note. It is understood that it is about to be put into operation in most provinces and is likely to be extended to the Indian States.

P.O. SAVINGS LIMIT RAISED

Since the Post Office raised the net annual deposit allowed for any Savings Bank account from Rs. 750 to Rs. 1,500, over 17,000 depositors have taken advantage of the enhanced limit and the total resulting increased deposits exceed Rs. 68 lakhs.

INDIAN RAILWAY CONFERENCE

The 46th session of the Indian Railway Conference Association was opened on November 26, by Mr. C. G. W. Cordon, Agent, M. and S. M. Railway, who is this year's President. The Conference was attended by the Hon. Sir Edward Benthall, Member, and Sir S. N. Roy, Secretary, War Transport Department, the Chief Commissioner, members and the Financial Commissioner, Railway Board, and the Agents and General Managers of all the railways in India and some officers of the War Transport and Railway Departments.

Mr. Cordon, in the course of his presidential address, referred by way of illustration to the increase in passenger miles on his railway and said that the increase in first-class was 605 per cent., second-class 339 per cent., inter-class 220 per cent. and third-class 44 per cent., while parcels and other coaching earnings, after deducting the increase due to the extra charge, had gone up by 156 per cent.

Among problems of post-war reconstruction on railways, Mr. Cordon mentioned the importance attached to the future goods traffic rating policy because transportation was an important item in industry and in the marketing of produce. Despite air, road and water transport of the future, he said, railways would remain as the chief purveyors of transport.

Sir Edward Benthall, addressing the Conference, emphasized that the provision, of more bus service to relieve traffic congestion was a possibility. He said: "Certain suggestions for alleviating the extreme difficulties and discomforts of travel are being taken up vigorously. But it is not possible to forecast any material improvement until we can run more passenger trains. This, the locomotive and coal position at present prevents, but steps are being taken to examine the possibility of affording some relief to long-suffering passengers in certain of the more congested areas.

In comparison with the millions who travel on the Indian railways, the relief may not be great but we are only too conscious of the intolerable conditions of railway travel and are keenly anxious to do what we can to alleviate them.

DANCE WHILE YOU TRAVEL

France has the first train to be fitted with *dancing saloon, writes the Star of* Johannesburgh.

Known as the "radio train," every compartment has a loud-speaker for broadcasting a programme of music from the train's own broadcasting station. Passengers pay 133 francs for a ticket which entitles them to the journey from Havre, lunch on arrival, and an evening meal before taking the train for the return journey.

Trippers can tune in in each compartment to listen either to dance music or a special concert. A lecturer gives a short talk on the country through which the train is passing, naming the different towns, chateaux or castles and tells something of their history. The dancing saloon car holds a dozen couples at a time, and it is quite steady even when the train is travelling at its fastest.

The train's radio station does not confine itself to providing music for dancers' concerts and lectures. An entertainer on the train *organizes interviews with passengers before* the microphone, broadcasts songs or recitations by passengers, and there is an occasional discussion before the microphone on some subject of general interest.

SIR RADHAKRISHNAN ON MUSIC

"Music knows no politics. It stands for certain permanent values of life. When *it is prostituted to serve ephemeral and* irrelevant ends, it is not music. It is propaganda narrow, arid and hypocritical," observed Dr. Sir S. Rabakrishnan declaring open recently the Seventeenth Music Conference organized under the joint auspices of the Music Academy and the Indian Fine Arts Society at Sundareswarár Hall, Mylapore. Vidwan Sri Palladam Sanjiva Rao presided.

Musicians and music lovers were present in large numbers.

In India, said Sir Radhakrishnan, music occupies a very high place—the highest *conceivable place possible. Goddess* Saraswathi is playing on the national instrument, veena. Sri Krishna is playing on *the flute. And they all* know the Nataraja Thandava, pointing out the undulation and sway of mortal life.

RECORD SCORE IN PENTANGULAR

The Hindus won the Pentangula cricket tournament in Bombay by a innings and 61 runs. *The Rest in thei* second innings were all out for 387 o which V. S. Hazare claimed 309 thereb establishing a new record for the highes score in these series. Thus Hazare i the last and final day of the Pentangular broke the record set up earlier b Merchant who scored 250 for Hindus.

The Rest began their second inning *disastrously losing 5 wickets for onl* 60 runs. This brought V. S. Hazare an his younger brother, Vikram Hazare together and this sixth wicket stan defied the Hindus bowling for the res *of the day.*

HONOUR TO HAZARE

A purse of over Rs. 12,000 was presented to Vijay Hazare at a reception held at the Catholic Gymkhana, Bombay, in his honour and in token of appreciation of his brilliant performances for the Rest in the Bombay Pentangular, in which he was mainly responsible for his side's *victory against the Muslims in the first* round and then gallantly strove to avoid an innings defeat against the formidable Hindu side in the final match.

JACKIE PATERSON

World flyweight champion Jackie Paterson knocked out George Pook Western Area featherweight champion from Torquay, in the sixth round of an eight-round contest, at Queensberry Club, London. The fight was at catchweights. Paterson weighed 8st. 11lb. and Pook 8st. 12½lb.

Paterson was down for a count of nine in the fifth round, but, coming back in the sixth, *put Pook down for a count of* nine, and a few seconds later for the full count.

THE BEST ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

The Swedish runner, Gunder Haegg, was voted the athlete of the year in the annual poll of the United States sports writers conducted by the "Associated Press". This is the first time in 13 years that a foreigner is awarded the first place. He is the overwhelming winner, getting 109 votes. Spurgeon Chandler, the New York Yankee base ball star, got 59 votes.

INDIAN SCIENTISTS & ROYAL SOCIETY

In his anniversary address to the Royal Society, Sir Henry Dale, President of the Royal Society, made a special reference to the visit of the Society's Secretary, Professor A. V. Hill to India. He said that co-ordination of reconstruction plans was a very important matter and Prof. Hill had the good wishes of them all for the full success of his undertaking "to strengthen the bonds of understanding and true comradeship between our Indian colleagues and men of science in this country." Sir H. Dale continued:

In that connection I ought further to report to you a step which I have taken with the approval of the Council and for which I have not found any precedent in our records. It was brought to my notice that of the six distinguished Indian men of science who are at present on the roll of our Fellows, only two have hitherto been able to present themselves here in order to subscribe their obligation in our Charter Book and to be admitted according to statute. It seems certain that the war will create still further difficulty and delay for the attendance here of the other four and I have accordingly commissioned Prof. Hill to take with him to India a sheet of suitable parchment on which the Fellows' obligation is inscribed and on which their signature can be taken for eventual incorporation in the appropriate page of the Charter Book.

I have nominated Prof. Hill as Vice-President and under statute 42 have deputed him to perform on my behalf our simple ceremony of admission. We hope that we may be able to do this at the meeting of the Indian Science Congress. It seems fitting to take this unusual opportunity thus to complete reception into the circle of our Fellowship of all Indian men of science whom the Society has elected.

RHENIUM—A NEW DISCOVERY

Rhenium, a rare, silver-coloured new metal, which is heavier than gold or lead, has been discovered in useful amounts in fine dust of American steel mills. The discovery was announced to the American Chemical Society by A. D. Melaven and J. A. Bacon of the University of Tennessee.

The fine dust is collected and wet with water. The water washes out virtually all the rhenium in the form of a compound resembling the potassium permanganate used as a home antiseptic. The matter washed out by the water is known as potassium perrhenate and is 80 per cent. pure metal. Two further chemical treatments recover the metal.

FILM SALARIES

Not only in Hollywood are film stars paid astronomical salaries. Though India's cinema industry is of comparatively modern date, top-notch actors and actresses earn salaries which Executive Councillors and even Provincial Governors may envy.

A Bombay film journal referring to this recent development writes of stars taking up "freelance racketeering" which has enabled some of them to get Rs. 15,000 a month! Producers in Bombay are stated to be paying as much as Rs. 80,000 to a single star for a picture completed within five months. A well-known South Indian singing star apparently demanded Rs. 75,000 for a single picture. Not surprisingly the cost of casting sometimes exceeds one-third of the entire production cost.

One result of this freelance racketeering is the discouragement of new talent, and that in time is bound to have a lamentable effect on the film industry as a whole. In a world where talent is all too seldom recognised, nobody objects to adequate payment, but such fantastic salaries suggest unhealthy economics.

SOUTH INDIAN FILMS

The Film Industry in South India has made rapid strides within recent years, and several pictures, acknowledged by all to be in no way inferior to those of other countries, have been produced in the two principal languages. The films so far produced have, however, in a large majority of cases, taken their stories from the *Puranas*. But for a few experimental stories based on modern social conditions, writers for films have shown a decided preference for mythological and semi-historical themes.

INDIAN STAR FOR HOLLYWOOD?

This seems to be the day for Sheikh Mukhtar. If what some North-India papers report about him is reliable, he is shortly going to have the dream of many Indian 'stars' come true by appearing in a Hollywood film. It is claimed that negotiations are being finalised between him and RKO Radio Pictures which are expected to consummate their contractual deal soon.

ROAD DEVELOPMENT IN BOMBAY

The need for the preparation of plans for post war road development in Bombay Province was emphasized by a deputation from the Bombay Branch of the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association, which saw Mr. C. P. S. Collins, *Adviser to the Governor of Bombay*, at the Secretariat recently. The deputation pointed out that the economic progress of the country was linked up with road development and was happy to find from the speech of Sir Kenneth Mitchell at the recent session of the Indian Roads Congress that the Central Government had realized the importance of road planning. It, however, regretted that Bombay had still no separate Chief Engineer for Roads and urged upon Government to establish a planning authority. The view was also expressed that roads would have to be built out of capital. In regard to the question raised by the Adviser about the maintenance of future roads, the deputation pointed out that Government were already in receipt of enormous sums from tax on motor transport and urged that the amount should be spent exclusively on road maintenance. It thought that the source of revenue would expand enormously, and also contended that the Bombay Province was entitled to about Rs. 2,00,00,000 every year from the Government of India as its rightful share of the central taxes of motor transport, including the petrol tax. Mr. Collins stated that it was fairly evident that the Central and Provincial Governments were now in a better position to turn their thought to matters such as road development and assured the deputation that its views would receive consideration.

MOTOR FUEL FROM COTTON STALKS

According to a foreign technical journal, tests have been completed recently by the agricultural mechanization station of the Scientific Research Institute of Uzbekistan, U.S.S.R., on fuel from cotton-stalks. Lignite from local deposits is also mentioned as a new fuel for this use in Soviet Union.

NEW ADHESIVE FOR PLYWOOD

The DuPont Company has developed a radically new type of adhesive to bind thin sheets of wood which are moulded to form the bodies of military helicopters. The new plywood "glue" is said to possess the unusual quality of being both thermoplastic and thermosetting, hence, when ply-covered forms are heated under pressure in ovens, the adhesive first becomes fluid, permitting the layers of thin wooden strips to move into close contact, then, after only 20 minutes, it acts as a permanently tough, heat resistant and insoluble material. It is said to be unaffected by the high temperatures which develop in interior airplane surfaces under the tropical sun. The composition of the substance is secret.

MASS PRODUCTION X RAY MACHINE

Westinghouse engineers have perfected a new mass production X ray machine which is capable of inspecting 17,000 airplane castings in 24 hours. The machine brings the advantages of assembly-line speed to X-ray work and makes possible the X-raying of metal castings for defects at the rate of one every five seconds. The key to the speed of the machine is a moving conveyor, 40 feet long and three feet wide, which transports the castings through X ray inspection, thus providing the fastest method yet devised for spotting hidden flaws in large quantities of metal parts.

LONGEST AIR ROUTE

The longest air freight line in the world is now operating at a regular schedule between Patterson (Ohio) and India, announces the U.S. War Department. The first round trip of 28,000 miles in early October was completed in 12 days. The route is not disclosed, but the fact that Puerto Rico is on the route indicates that the planes cross the Atlantic to Africa and the Middle East.

U. S. ARSENAL FOR BOMBING PLANES

The huge Willow Run bomber plant built and operated by Henry Ford near Detroit, Michigan, is now fully tooled up, and some 30,000 workers are producing parts and sub-assemblies and completed Liberator bombers.

DEVELOPMENT OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES

"The best test of the industrial advance of a province is its progress in heavy industries. In India, however, heavy industries have suffered special discouragement and neglect in the past", observed Sir M. Visvesvaraya, in the course of his presidential address at the third quarterly meeting of the Central Committee of the All-India Manufacturers' Organization, held at Bombay, on December 19.

He added: "During the war they seem to have been kept out of the country by a special understanding. This exclusion has cost the country heavily; the experience and skill which people under war stimulus usually acquire have been irreparably lost".

In the absence of Government interest in the progress of industries, Sir M. Visvesvaraya said, it had become necessary for industrialists and leading citizens in various parts of the country to do by co-operative effort what Government would not do and to start suitable agencies and organizations for the purpose. He warned that there would be fierce international competition in matters of trade and industry in the post-war period and so an early start would give special advantage to the country that made it.

The first requisite of progress, therefore, was to obtain from Government an assurance that the country was free to develop its industries and agriculture on lines best suited to its advance and that Government would help, and not hamper, such advance. The announcement should be direct rank and unequivocal.

MANUFACTURE OF NEWSPRINT

"The major industry in the (Tehri) State so far has been forestry. In ordinary times it has been merely a source of revenue, but now it has assumed great importance as a war industry" observes the annual administration report of the Tehri (Garhwal) State.

Schemes are far advanced for the establishment of large-scale industries in the State. Survey for a hydro-electric project producing about 15,000 kwts. is in progress and after the war a big paper industry in the State for producing newsprint will be established.

LAND CULTIVATION IN INDIA

Using Bren-Carriers, bull-dozers, road graders and other war weapons, and even explosives, where necessary, the returned soldier can, after the war, bring under cultivation some 170 million acres of new land in India, says Dr. Maclagan Gorrie of the Indian Forest Service, in a paper read before the Crops and Soils Wing of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research at Baroda.

Dr. Gorrie, who is at present Director of Woodware in the Supply Department, deals with the scope of absorbing demobilised soldiers on the land. He estimates that with large-scale planning and in concert with Central and Provincial Governments, the army, the returned soldier, and soil conservation specialist in the provinces, some 170 million acres of barani land (land dependent on rains alone and not on irrigation) and waste could be brought into full cultivation. (India at present has some 260 million acres under food crops.)

He recalls that in the Tennessee Valley (U.S.A.) a central authority, with autocratic control, "literally worked miracles in improving the status of what was in 1934 a bankrupt and down-at-heel agricultural community." The days of miracles, Dr. Gorrie says, are not past, and India can make every one of its villages fit for heroes to live in, if it follows the Tennessee Valley authority's example."

COMMANDEERING OF PADDY

Regarding commandeering of paddy in Madras Province, the position with reference to small pattadars is as follows, stated Mr. S. V. Ramamurthi, Adviser to H. E. the Governor, at a recent Press Conference in Madras.

There will be no automatic commandeering of paddy in the case of ryots owing five acres of land or less. But, if the Collector finds that the ryots' family is small and that the ryot can afford to spare a part of his produce, he may, at his discretion, call upon the ryot to do so, after making a reasonable allowance for the needs of the ryots' family.

EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION

Addressing the annual general meeting of the Employers' Federation of India *in absentia* at Calcutta on December 21, Sir Homi Mody ex-Supply Member of Government of India, dealt with the question of inflation, the question of social security, labour legislation, post-war reconstruction, provision of capital equipment to build up new industries, famine conditions in India and the urgency of having adequate and reliable statistics relating to production and consumption of food-grains.

Dealing with the proposed labour legislation, Sir Homi said

"The vast majority of industrialists are prepared to support, to the full extent of their capacity, a policy aimed at a steady improvement of the lot of the worker, but they ask that before industry is securely established in this country, and before anything approaching Western standards of efficiency is achieved, they should not be called upon bodily to adopt Western standards of legislation."

LABOUR EXCHANGE

Government propose to establish in Madras a Labour Exchange through which industrialists and engineers could obtain the services of suitable men for their concerns—this was disclosed by Mr. V. Ramakrishna, Chairman of the Labour Tribunal, in the course of a discussion he had with members of the Southern India Chamber of Commerce on November 25, regarding the present scheme of training for recruits to technical units of the Army.

Mr. Ramakrishna explained that although the scheme was primarily intended for providing personnel for defence services, it was now possible to release a number of the trainees for civil industries, Madras, which had been leading in this matter, and had so far trained about 13,000 persons as fitters, machinemen, engine artificers, mechanics, turners, welders, moulders, drivers, upholsterers, vulcanists, wiremen, etc. Besides the proposed Labour Exchange, several reconstruction and post-war committees had been charged with the task of finding avenues of employment for the trainees after the war.

SIR DORABJI TATA TRUST

Over Rs. 60 lakhs have so far been expended in both large and small donations by the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, which has now completed ten years of its activities. Donations cover a wide range of charitable objects in every part of India, and in a few cases in response to appeals from overseas.

The largest single project undertaken by the Trust has been the establishment and maintenance of the Tata Memorial Hospital for Cancer, which was brought into being in 1940 at a capital cost of Rs. 22 lakhs and which is maintained at an average annual cost of Rs 4 lakhs. The Tata Graduate School of Social Work, which trains young men and women from the universities in social work, is the first institution of its kind in India. The School is maintained at an annual cost of over Rs. 50,000.

Scientific and technical education has received particular attention from the Trust. Nearly 800 men and women have been helped in their studies at home and abroad and in pursuance of this policy, the Trust, jointly with the Tata Iron and Steel Co., have recently donated Rs. 8,30,000 towards the establishment of a National Chemical Laboratory at Poona. The Calcutta University was also helped to secure a Cyclotron at a cost of Rs. 60,000.

Besides, the Trust have donated over Rs. 5 lakhs for the relief of sufferers in the Bihar and Quetta earthquakes, the Midnapore cyclone and the present Bengal famine.

THE PRIVATIONS OF INDIAN PEOPLE

In a long letter prominently published by *The New York Times*, Alfred Kahn, a reader of the newspaper, takes *The New York Times* Correspondent in Atlantic City to task for quoting authoritative circles there as saying that India would be unable to pay 35 million dollars as her contribution to the U.N.R.R.A. After a detailed review of India's financial position, Kahn says: "All this in no way touches the issue of the undeniably serious physical privations of the Indian people to-day. Great exports of goods, and the pouring in of British expenditures unaccompanied by products, contribute to inflation to which the current famine is in large measure attributable."

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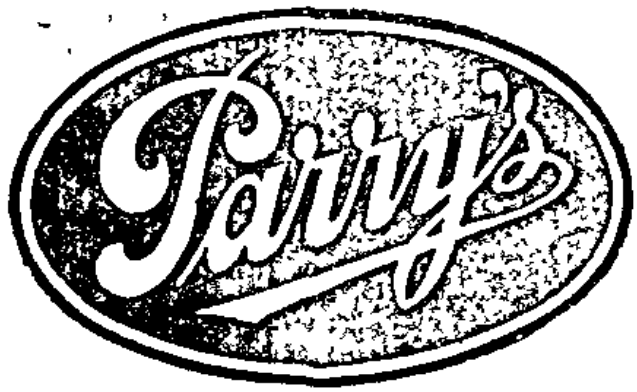
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Further particulars may be obtained from:—

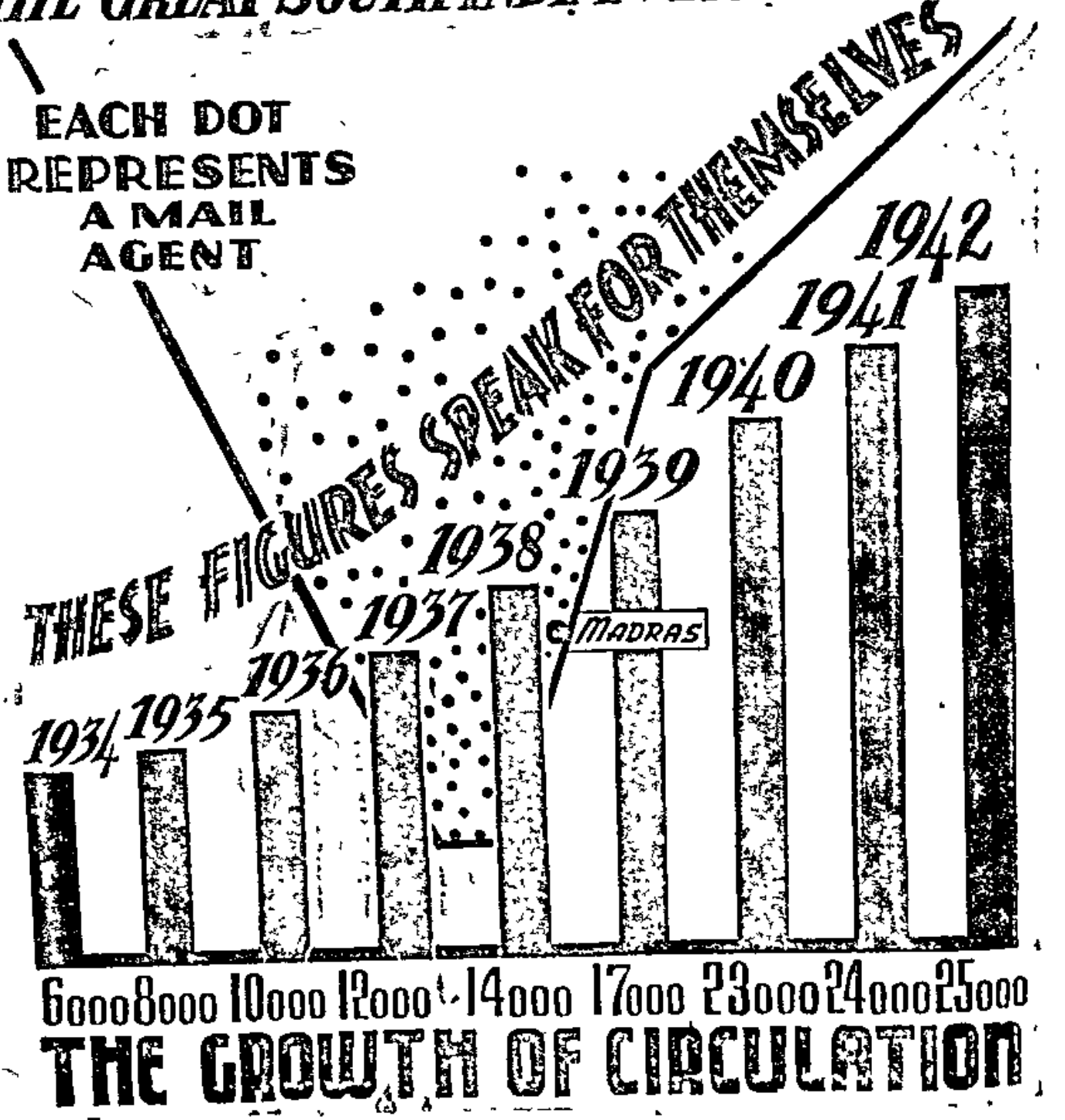
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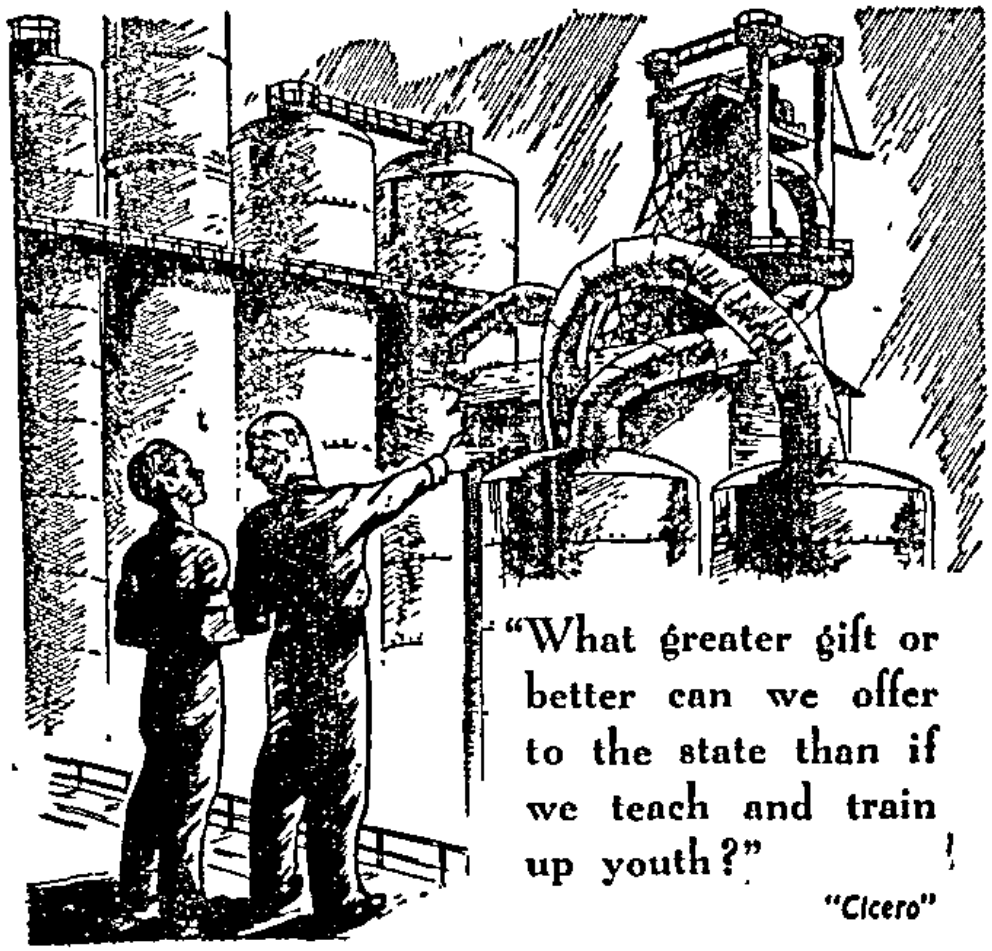
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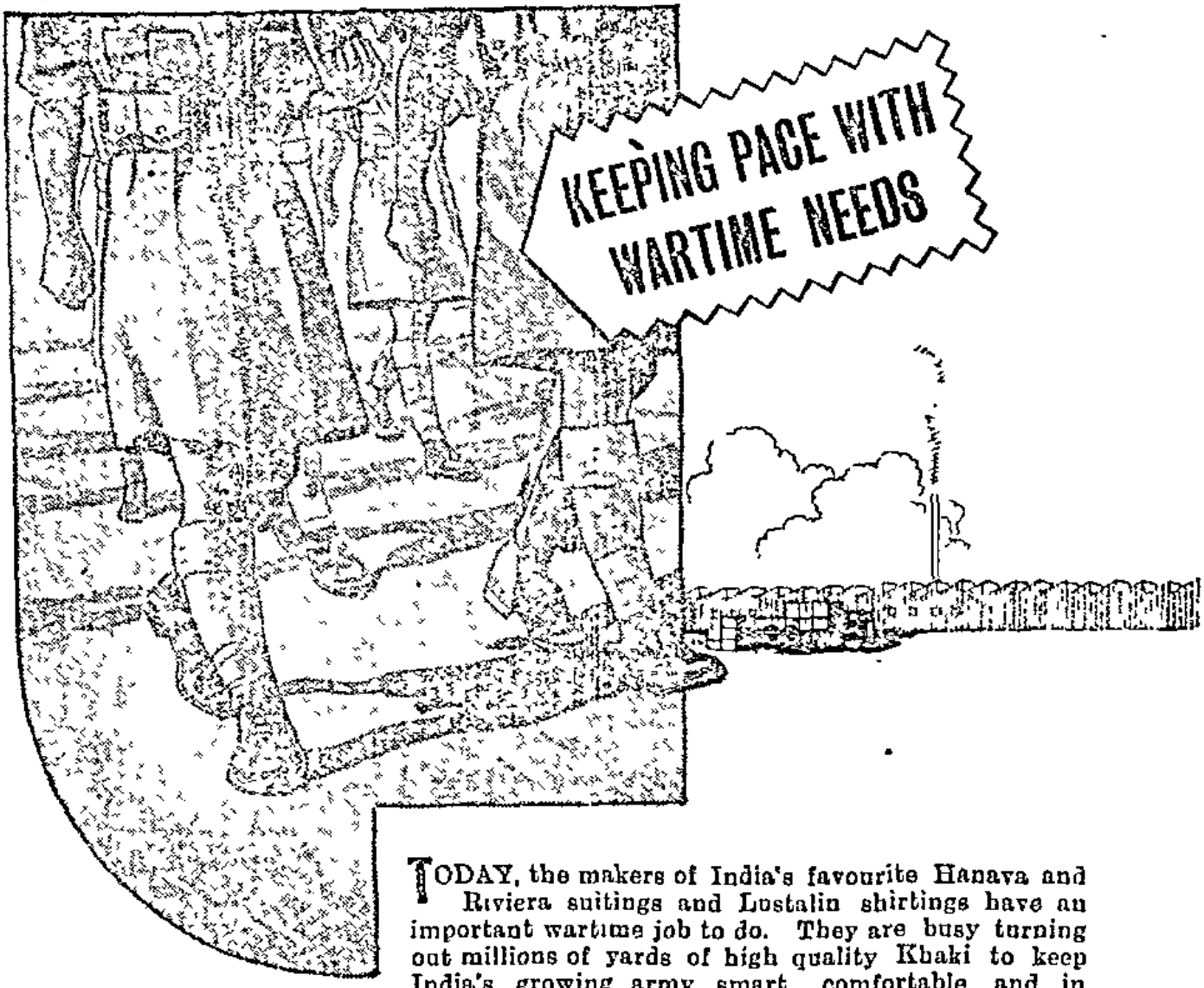
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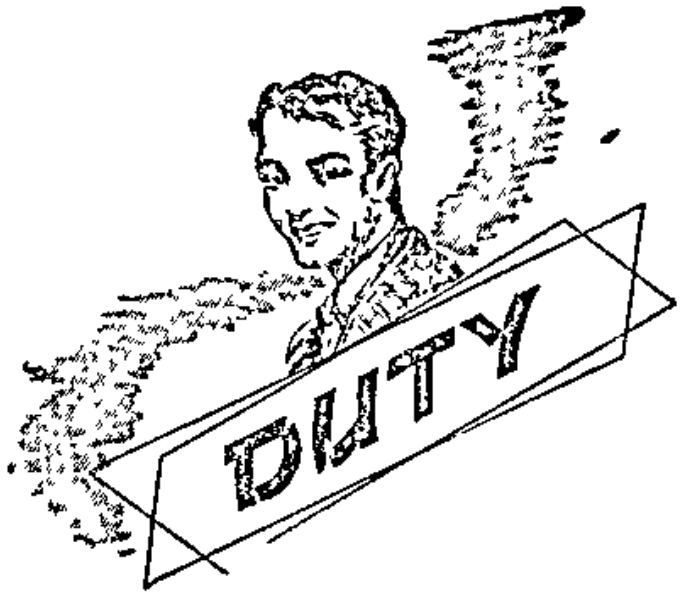
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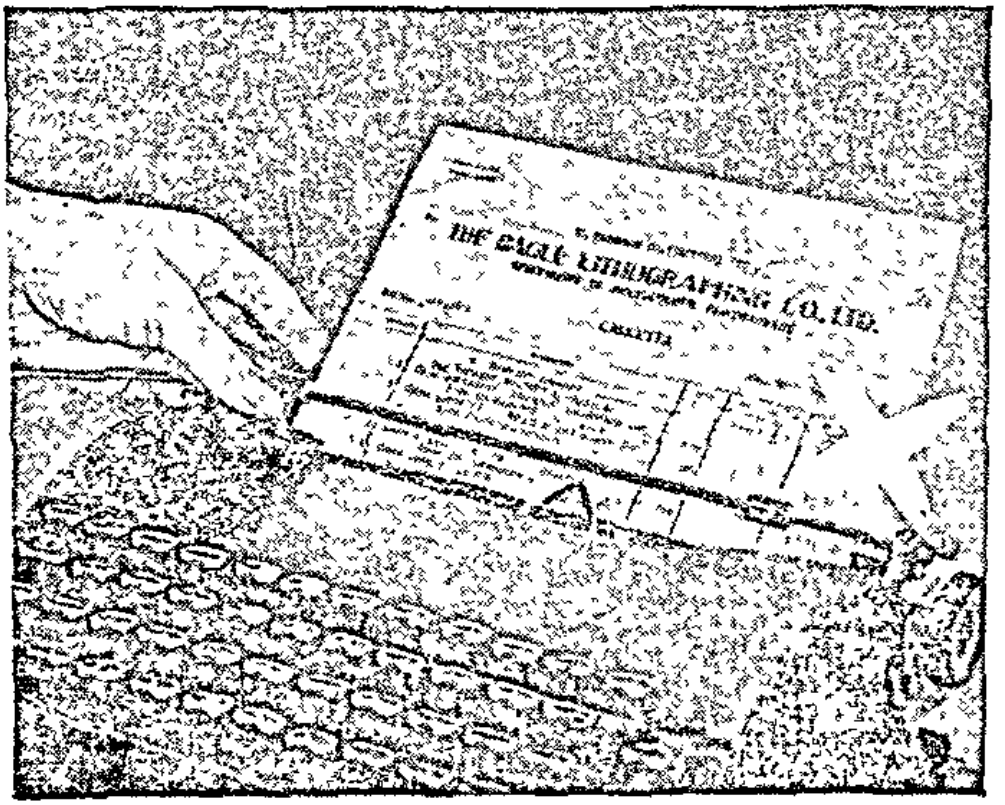
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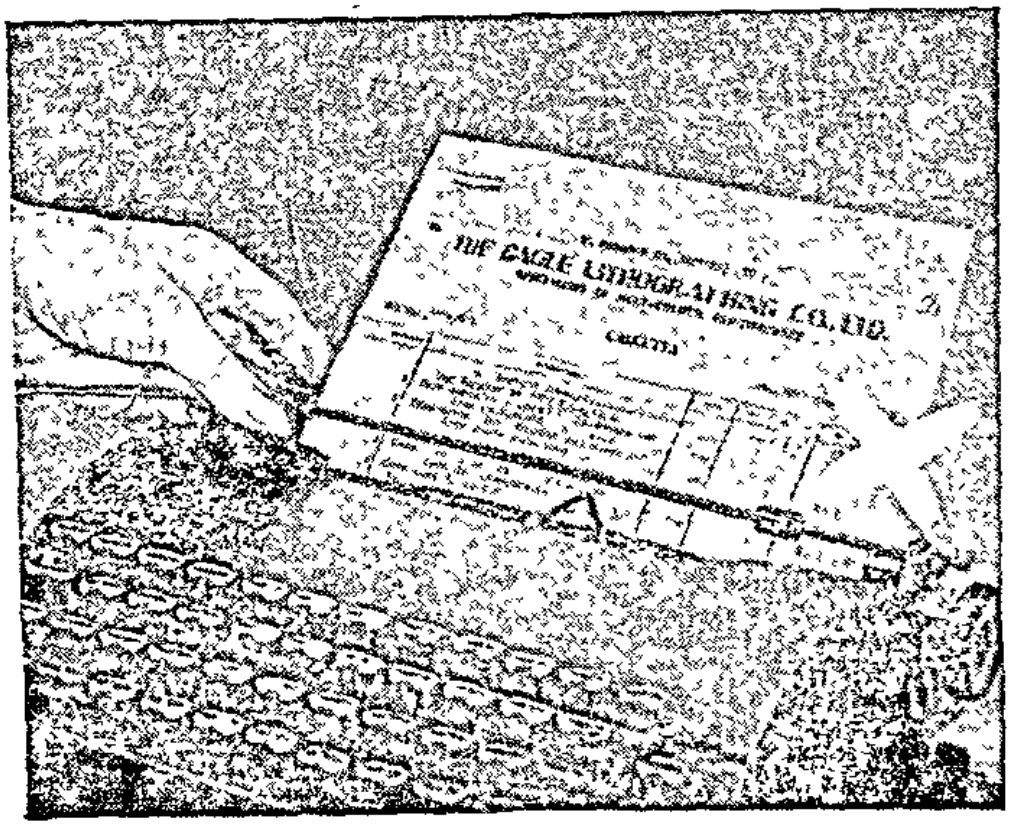
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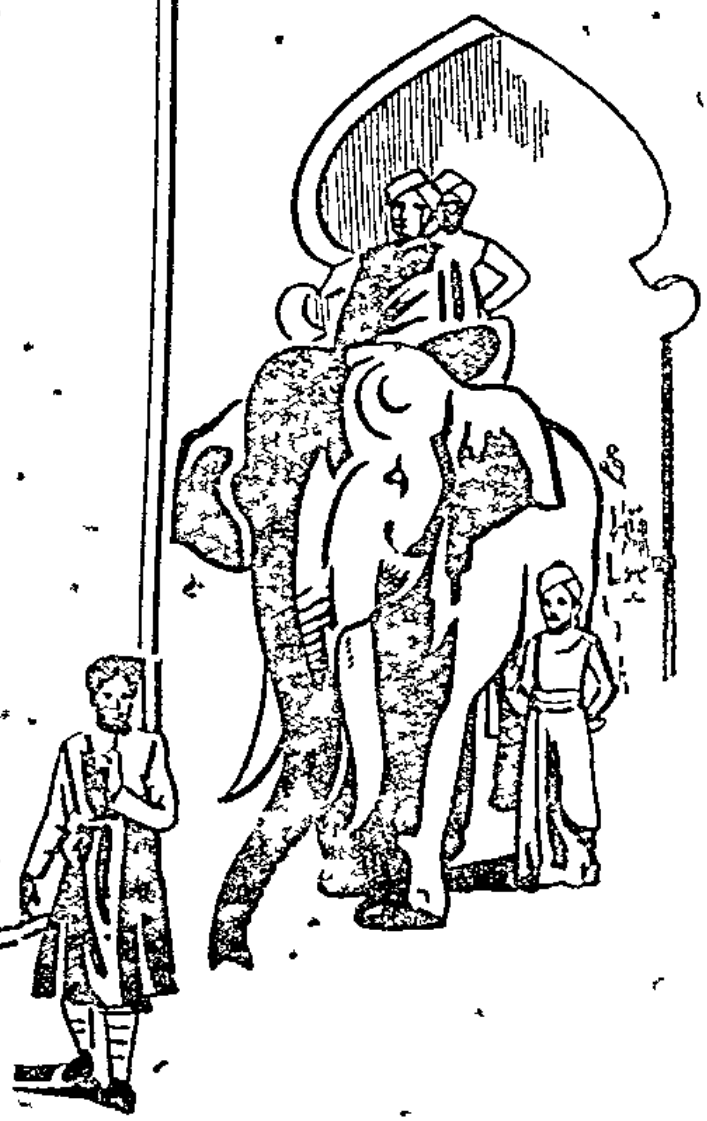
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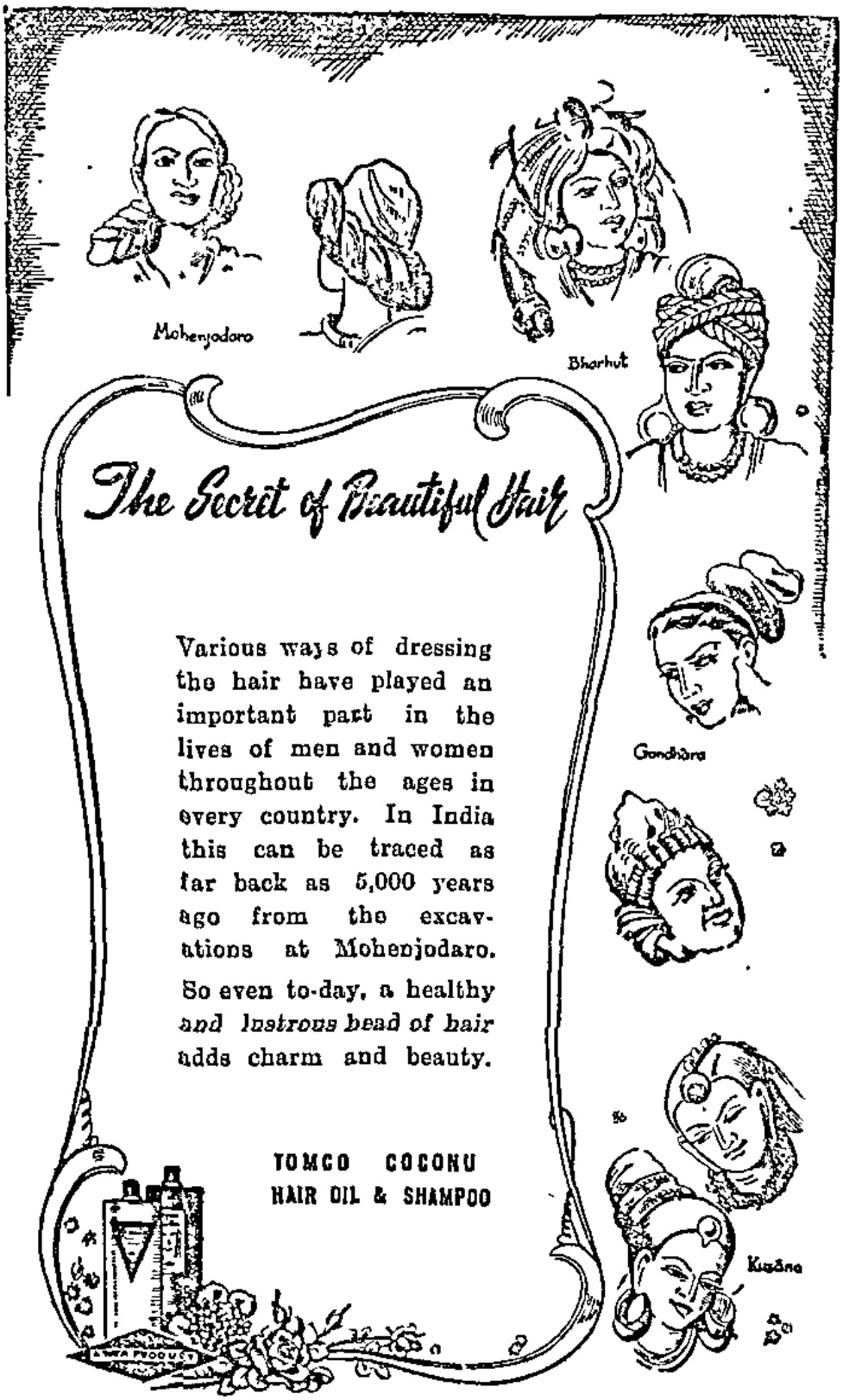
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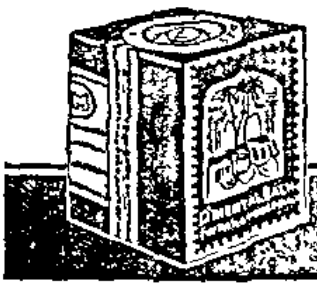
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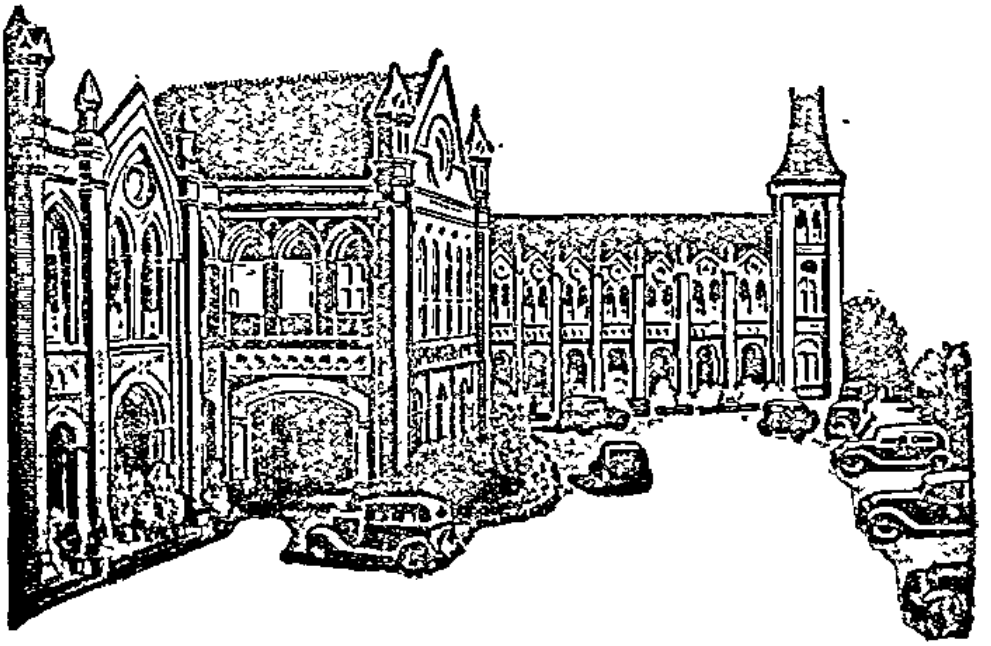
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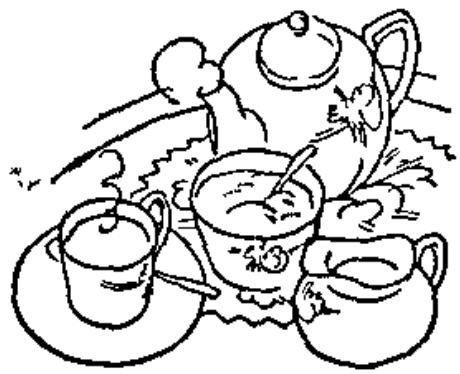
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Vol. 45.] FEBRUARY 1944 [No. 2.

Parliamentary Government in India

By Hon. Sir N. GOPALASWAMI AYYANGAR, C.S.I., C.I.E.

To the growing volume of literature on the development and working of the Indian Constitution, Sir B. P. Singh Roy's "Parliamentary Government in India" * is a notable addition. A student of Constitutions, a front rank liberal in active politics, a Member of the Bengal Legislature for more than 20 years and a Minister there for over a decade, the author combines in himself an equipment in constitutional theory and a prolonged experience in Parliament and in office which ought to compel attention to whatever he has to say on the results of his study of the evolution and functioning of our existing governmental system. Whether, as a piece of constitutional machinery, this system is delicately poised or not, there cannot be the slightest doubt that it has thrown up a number of conundrums in Parliamentary democracy. In several fundamental respects, particularly in the number and complexity of the impediments it has placed in the way of speedy and smooth progress towards full responsible government, it is almost unique in constitutional history.

The book marshals, in a compact form, the facts relating to our constitutional history since 1857 and should prove of value to students, politicians and statesmen. It draws prominent attention to the problems that are ahead and, in correctly appreciating and tackling these, the author's presentation and appraisement of the history of what has happened up to date and his exposition of the relevant constitutional principles should be of great help.

Dominion Status, the right of secession and the Statute of Westminster are amongst the interesting constitutional issues referred to in the chapter on "India and the British Commonwealth". The discussion reveals the author's intimate acquaintance with the voluminous literature that has accumulated on these subjects during the last quarter of a century which may, in part, be responsible for his visualising the prospect before India in the following words:

> On the side of the allied Powers the War is being fought with the avowed object of vindicating democracy. India may, therefore, reasonably expect that, in spite of the present deadlock, for which both we and our rulers must share the responsibility and the reluctance of Britain to part with power, it will not be easy on the termination of the hostilities in favour of the Allies to resist India's claim to be admitted as a full-fledged member of the British Commonwealth of Nations with option to secede from the Empire. For all practical purposes, it is difficult to foresee anything beyond this consummation.

This is in conformity with the creed of a large body of Liberals in the country. Though the ideal of the larger and more influential political organisations in the country is independence, there are not a few amongst their members who would be content immediately with Dominion Status if legal or constitutional provision could be made for declaring and placing beyond doubt what some people have led them to believe, namely, that the right to advance to full independence is included in Dominion Status. Writing to Mr. Polak in January 1937, Mahatma Gandhi said that "so far as I am concerned, if Dominion Status were offered in the terms of the Statute of Westminster, that is the right to secede at will, I would unhesitatingly accept it." The view held by constitutionalists in England until the

* "Parliamentary Government in India" by the Hon'ble Sir Bijoy Prasad Singh, K.C.I.E., President, Bengal Legislative Council. Thacker Spink & Co., Calcutta. Rs. 9.

outbreak of the present War was that the Dominion Status promised to India by Lords Irwin and Willingdon was subject to her continued membership of the Empire. Speaking in Bombay in January 1940, Lord Linlithgow, however, declared that the policy of His Majesty's Government was the attainment by India as soon as possible after the War of full Dominion Status "of the Statute of Westminster variety." The draft declaration brought by Sir Stafford Cripps in March 1942 describes the political status of India after the War in terms of the status of a Dominion in accordance with the Resolution of the Imperial Conference of 1926. In expounding the content and implications of this status, Sir Stafford Cripps further committed himself to the statements

(a) that the proposed Indian Union would be entitled to disown its allegiance to the Crown and that, for removing all doubts in this connection, the War Cabinet had deliberately inserted the following words in the last sentence of paragraph c (ii) of the declaration. "but (the proposed treaty) will not impose any restriction on the power of the Indian Union to decide in the future its relation to the other member-States of the British Commonwealth", and

(b) that the Indian Union will be completely free either to remain within or to go without the Commonwealth.

It is doubtful whether the words quoted in the latter part of clause (*a*) above would justify the inference in the earlier part or that in clause (*b*). But Sir Stafford's interpretation has not so far been authoritatively contradicted. Even Professor Coupland has not questioned its correctness, on the other hand, he has founded on it the observation that "thus the distinction so long made by the Congress between Dominion Status and complete Swaraj was bereft of any practical importance." The Congress Working Committee was apparently not unimpressed by this exposition of Sir Stafford and in its resolution on the draft declaration conceded that "future independence may be implicit in the proposals," but feared that the other limiting conditions and restrictions in the scheme might obstruct the implementing of the right of secession and might, therefore, render the attainment of real freedom, an illusion. One finds it difficult, however, from the strictly constitutional standpoint to appreciate all this touching faith in the value of a present formal recognition of the right of secession. The Statute of Westminster concedes neither expressly nor by way of necessary constitutional implication any right in any of the Dominions to which it applies to secede from the Empire. According to Professor Keith, there is an element of unity which characterises the relations *inter se* of members of the Commonwealth. He apparently is prepared to lend his support to the view of the British Government, which was virtually endorsed by the Imperial Conference of 1926, that these relations are not relations governed by international law but are constitutional in character. The British Commonwealth of Nations has, therefore, to be treated as a political entity and must be deemed to have a constitutional existence. The Statute of Westminster assumes naturally the continuance of this entity and declares and defines "the established constitutional position" amongst the members of the Commonwealth and, in respect amongst other matters of the alteration of the law touching the Throne, the Royal Style and Titles as also in respect of the exercise of the legislative jurisdiction of the Parliament of the United Kingdom over the Dominions. Secession involves the severing of every constitutional link that now exists between the Dominion on the one hand and the Crown, Government and Parliament of the United Kingdom on the other. When a Dominion does take steps to implement a decision to secede from the Commonwealth, it will be doing something which amounts in effect to revolting from, and repudiating, the essentials of the Constitution by which, so long as it was a member of the Commonwealth, it was bound. It has been contended that, under the letter of the Statute of Westminster, there is nothing to prevent a Dominion which has adopted its provisions in full enacting a law seceding from the Commonwealth. But even so, in order to make such a decision legally complete and implementable, it would probably be necessary to enact an Imperial measure as also to obtain the concurrence of the other Dominions thereto. Such a merely legal exploitation of the

letter of a Statute would not necessarily make it a constitutional proceeding. The decision of a Dominion on so grave and fundamental a change in its political status should, if at all, be effected by constituent machinery with the support of the large mass of the people of the Dominion. When the decision is so taken, it will, for the Parliament and Government of Great Britain, be a problem in political expediency as to whether they should acquiesce in that decision or should thwart it by refusing to pass the necessary complementary Imperial legislation or resort to force or other extra-constitutional measures for preventing its being carried into effect. Recent history indicates that, in the case of the existing Dominions, the British authorities will probably prefer the alternative of acquiescence in the Dominion's secession. In this connection, Sir Bijoy has quoted Professor Keith's statement that "if the Free State should determine to declare itself a Republic, the British Government would not make war to prevent such a result." Mr. Bonar Law expressed more than 20 years ago the same view in more general terms when he said that "no Government in Great Britain would ever use force to compel a Dominion to do anything which the mass of its citizens were unwilling to do." If and when, in the best interests of India and with the support of the large mass of her citizens, we decide to go out of the Empire and our position and strength *vis-a-vis* the world and the Empire are such as to make it unlikely that any Government in Great Britain would, or could successfully, use force *to compel us against our will* to remain in the Empire, we shall be able successfully to exercise this inherent right in all sovereign peoples whether it is now incorporated in a Statute or not. The right to secede is, under existing conditions, merely a question of academic interest and the discussion of the question of its embodiment in specific terms in any Statute conferring Dominion Status on India in the British Commonwealth of Nations would seem to be mere waste of time.

Even less defensible than in the case of the members of a loosely bound association of practically sovereign Governments like those included in the British Commonwealth of Nations would be the statutory recognition of a right of secession in favour of any of the units of a closely-knit unitary or federal state in which the Centre or the Federation has of necessity not merely to shoulder supremely essential governmental tasks which the units cannot, and it alone can, *discharge, but to exercise over the units* supervisory, controlling and co-ordinating jurisdiction in legislation and administration with a view to ensure the successful functioning of disciplined, democratic self-government among them. The Constitution of the U. S. S. R. is a notable exception to what *prima facie* is a sound constitutional principle; but the exception is only apparent, the right conferred by the Soviet Constitution being merely on paper. Any agitation to exercise it will be at once denounced as "counter-revolutionary" as being in conflict with the interests of the Revolution and Socialism and "no break-away will be tolerated". There is no mention of any right of secession in the draft declaration brought by Sir Stafford Cripps. The right proposed to be granted therein is rather one of non-accession or, to use the words of the declaration itself, "the right of any province of British India that is not prepared to accept the new Constitution to retain its present constitutional position, provision being made for its subsequent accession *if it so decides*". Sir Bijoy points out, not without force, that this concession would render the Constituent Assembly meaningless, his contention being that the very presence of a unit in the constitution-making body should make the decision of that Constituent Assembly binding on it if such an assembly is to function as a plenary body clothed with full power to negotiate and sign a treaty with His Majesty's Government. The insertion of this clause in the draft declaration was a weak, though deliberate, concession to communal clamour. The Congress Working Committee was, however, perhaps no less weak when, after laying emphasis on Indian unity and on the supreme need, especially in the modern world, of not permitting any breach in that unity, it expressed its inability to "think in terms of compelling the people in

any territorial unit to remain in an Indian Union against their declared and established will."

Sir Bijoy's examination of the content and working of Provincial Autonomy under the Acts of 1919 and 1935 merits careful study in view of the personal experience and first-hand knowledge he has brought to bear on it. On the main theme of the book, however, his chapters on Responsible Government in the Provinces and on the Party System are perhaps the most important. They are of more than ordinary interest at the present juncture when a radical reversal of the policy first announced in the Montagu declaration of August 1917, embodied in the Act of 1919, confirmed after elaborate investigation in the Act of 1935 and re-affirmed in subsequent authoritative pronouncements, is being canvassed in influential quarters. Mr. Jinnah's stand on this question is unequivocal, *viz.*, that experience of the working of the Act of 1935 has already established that it is impossible to work a democratic parliamentary government in India and that majority rule based on the party system is unsuited to this country. According to Mr. Amery, the conditions do not exist here for the framing of the type of constitution in which parties are the machinery for the expression of differences on specific public issues, neither the Muslims nor the Princes could ever be persuaded to submit to any Central Government for India in which the executive is directly dependent on a parliamentary majority and, as there are many forms of free Constitutions, the Constitution for India should be framed afresh in consonance with the conditions peculiar to her. The results of Professor Coupland's critical study of the working of the existing constitution do not exactly bear out entirely these somewhat rash pronouncements. Part III of his Nuffield Report on the Future of India, which is not yet available in this country, may possibly throw more light on whether he advocates the unqualified rejection of any system of parliamentary democracy for India or whether he contemplates merely radical re-adaptations of the British model of single party parliamentary rule in its application to this country. There has so far been only the vague indication that that volume will contain suggestions as to possible ways of devising a system of government both for the Provinces and for India as a whole in which "the twin principles of freedom and unity are balanced and combined." A recent cable from London attributed to him, however, the statement that "the Government of India Act, 1935, is dead and further advance is not possible in that direction. The Act was based on two wrong assumptions: firstly, that India is a Nation and, secondly, that parliamentary government is possible in India. Both these assumptions must be abandoned." Apart from the detailed analysis in Parts I and II of the Nuffield Report itself, Sir Bijoy's book contains a wealth of material which should knock the bottom out of these somewhat over-confident and extravagantly worded assertions, if they were really meant to convey more than that the orthodox British system of parliamentary democracy cannot be bodily transplanted at once into this country in all its purity. If, with communal electorates and with the whip-hand in the governance of India still in the hands of the Parliament and Government of the United Kingdom, some of the fundamental conditions of parliamentary rule as practised in Great Britain have been absent, and it has been found necessary in the provincial sphere to deviate from certain vital conventions of the British system, it would seem hardly right to shut one's eyes to what has been accomplished with the existing Constitution even under the depressing political and communal conditions that have prevailed almost since its inception and to suggest that the progress already made towards responsible government should be rolled back and a new and different scheme now devised for fresh experiment.

Summing up his review of the working of the 1935 Act in the non-Congress provinces, Professor Coupland has himself said:

> Despite the disturbing, perverting influence of communalism within and the pressure of all-India forces from without, the twin policies of the new Constitution—Provincial Autonomy and Responsible Government—have so far not broken down. They stand firmly in the Punjab. They stand somewhat

less firmly in Bengal. They have been twisted but they have not failed in Sind. They failed but were shored up again in Assam. They have recently been erected rather shakily in Orissa. And in all the circumstances, this is a notable achievement. Whatever the future may have in store, students of politics must needs be impressed by the fact that a parliamentary type of democracy has now been tried out for the first time in great Asiatic countries, peopled all together by many millions and, in the two more prosperous and advanced of them, at any rate, it has for nearly six years successfully survived the trial.

The resignation of the Ministers in the Congress provinces towards the end of 1939 and their remaining out of office thereafter were part of all-India political tactics. Whether this policy was wise or unwise, it is irrelevant to an estimate of the work they did in the provincial sphere during the period they were in office. To the high standard of the work they did then, there has been ample testimony. Professor Coupland has acknowledged that the ministries in the Congress provinces had more stability than those of any of the non-Congress provinces except the Punjab, that, with few exceptions, the Congress Ministers proved themselves capable and tireless workers with a high sense of public duty and responsibility, that they maintained the accepted principles of public finance, that their activities in the field of social and economic betterment were bold and remarkable and that the legislatures which they guided and were responsible to were well conducted, hard-working and businesslike.

The Congress Ministries were party governments whose entire personnel was drawn from a single political party with an absolute majority in the legislature. The ministries in the non-Congress provinces were coalitions of two or more parties—not necessarily all political—no one of which had, except in the Punjab, an absolute majority. These two types of executive are of common occurrence in parliamentary government, but require for their success the active functioning of parties based on political and economic issues. Attempts have been made to develop such parties cutting across communal cleavages. Separate electorates on a communal basis for constituting the legislature have, however, been their enemy. To quote Sir Bijoy, "Political creed is sacrificed to give weightage to communal opinion and as such political parties move on communal lines. It is the curse of political India!" The intensification of narrow communalism under ostensibly political labels is perhaps the most distressing feature of Indian politics since 1937. Communal minorities, not being able to look forward to converting themselves into majorities, have openly denounced the principle of majority party rule and have insisted on their claim for inclusion in governments and sharing power with the majority. There is nothing inherently untenable in this position. Professor Coupland thinks that the evils of communal schism in obstructing the development of parliamentary government could have been tempered if the major communal organisations in the provinces had combined to form coalition governments. The coalition cabinets, of which Sir Bijoy writes as being normally the consequence of emergency conditions, are obviously not coalitions of the type formed in the non-Congress Provinces but what would, in these days, be more usually described as "national" governments. He urges that "in the absence of political parties pledged to work the Constitution on political and economic issues and in the presence of a foreign Power in our midst, which is not a normal condition favourable for the working of parliamentary institutions, the willing co-operation of all representative groups and interests in the national life of the country should be brought together in the service of the motherland". The setting up of national governments on these lines, led and dominated by ministers who command the largest numerical support in the legislature is a variation from the practice of the last seven years but is well worth trial as an antidote to further intensification of communal schism. The criticism against a mere coalition of two or more political groups, that it will lack the strength required for efficient executive administration, cannot be levelled with the same force against such "national" executives and their constitution will involve no breakaway from the essentials of responsible parliamentary government.

the more heinous. It is, however, praiseworthy that, despite all these hindrances, the Red Cross had already (June 1943) sent off for prisoners of war 6,300 tons of bulk supplies by means of diplomatic exchange ships, of which the bulk is believed to have been distributed to camps in Singapore and Hong Kong. For Indian prisoners of war in Europe, the Indian Comforts Fund in London pack and send weekly food parcels on behalf of the Joint War Organization, for which the Indian Red Cross and St. John pay. Upto the time of the fall of Tunisia, they have been sending as many as 20,000 such parcels every week, each weighing 10 lbs. Each parcel costs 10 shillings, including tobacco, and the cost to the Organization's funds is consequently heavy. The British Red Cross also sends out to Geneva bulk shipments of warm clothing for every prisoner of war, whether British, Dominion or Indian.

As for correspondence with the prisoners of war, letters to Europe get through fairly well, but those for the Far East present greater difficulties owing to the long distance involved, *via* Basra, Oranburg (the U.S.S.R.), Vladivostok and Tokyo. They have, furthermore, to be sorted and censored in Japan and then find their way to the individual address which again may take a very long time as the route passes through the war zones.

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TRACING THE MISSING

Relieving the anxieties of wives, parents and those who are officially known as the next of kin is one of the most welcome services provided by the Joint War Organization. Times without number has the Red Cross and St. John lifted the load of anxiety of those described in rather a prosaic way as the next of kin.

The tracing of men who have been missing since the fall of Singapore, or evacuation of Burma is far more difficult than tracing men missing in European or African theatres of war, owing to the enormous numbers involved and the loss of records. In April, 1942, it was decided that the Red Cross War Organization should assist the official organization in so far as allied personnel or members of local non-regular units were concerned; the Adjutant General, whilst retaining his responsibility in regard to all missing members of the military forces, would particularly cover the tracing of regular soldiers. The searcher organization set up in May, 1942, has succeeded in locating a number of the missing but owing to the difficulty of getting searches with the necessary qualifications and lack of sufficient data, the organization has not been a success.

In addition to the above method, it should be of much comfort to the thousands of people who anxiously await news of their missing relatives that inquiries are also made from comrades in the field, sick and wounded in hospital, convalescent depots, etc., and simultaneously parallel inquiries are pursued through diplomatic and Red Cross channels. The Red Cross is a human service which understands human anxiety, and which spares no pains to alleviate it.

In India the Joint War Organization of the Red Cross has still great work to do. With the prospects from the Indian base of a big drive against the Japanese, its obligations and work will be even larger than they were in the past years. The traditions of the Red Cross, which works in war for those stricken by it and in peace endeavours to raise the standard of public health and in many other ways lessens the world's burden of suffering, are a guarantee that our prisoners of war and the wounded will not go neglected. Meanwhile for the public here enjoying comparative peace and security the thing to remember is that in the words of Clara Burton "The soldier is really not begging for alms when he asks for a handful of lint, but for the repayment of a debt."

THE FAILURE OF FASCISM

By Mr. KANWAR JOGINDRA SINGH, M.A. (Hist.), M.A. (Econ.), LL.B., F.R. Econ.

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ONCE Mazzini, the great Italian patriot, wrote about the rulers of his country:: "A medley of opportunists and cowards and little Machiavellis have led themselves be dragged behind the suggestion of a foreigner. I sought to call up the soul of Italy, and I only see its corpse". This is more true of Benito Mussolini than any ruler of Italy who some three years back had told Italians in a grandiose speech from the balcony of the Plazzo Venezzia that the hour of Fascist destiny had struck and that how in a few weeks he would be carrying such booty as he wished from the carcase of France and even from the Empire of Britain. Little did the original Fascist dictator, the first Marshal of the Italian Empire, the Cæsar of the Brenner Pass and the Protector of Islam realise that his dragging Italy at Hitler's chariot wheels will not only mean the ruin of the Italian Empire but also his catastrophic downfall that will compel him to run away from the seat of his political artistry. The spotlight, these last few weeks, has been on Mussolini's exit which is read to mean a significant change in enemy regimes from within, a speedy occupation of Italy by the Allies and the opening of a much promised second front against Berlin for establishing 'the pattern for the ultimate defeat of the Axis' as President Roosevelt called it. Whatever the political consequences of the present happening in Duce's land, there are grounds for believing that the Italians are dissatisfied and perturbed over the course of the war in which they have never had their heart and if they think they see a way out of it, they will not be held back by the love of their Allies. This attitude of Italians is mainly the result of disintegration amongst themselves caused by the failure of Mussolini and his Fascist party in the realm of the country's economic affairs. It is this economic failure that reflects the basic failure of Italian Fascism in the political sphere and has turned the Italian nation into a congeries of disgruntled individuals, all fiercely engaged in the day-to-day struggle to get food—and supremely indifferent to their past glory, present partnership with Germany, and imperialist claims they are being offered instead of bread. Why has Italy, once nearly self-sufficient in foodstuffs, become an undersrationed territory of German Europe? Why are the Italians losing whatever cohesion, strength of purpose and national enthusiasm the frantic Fascism of the last 21 years had managed to pump into them? Why has the Mussolinian edifice crumbled all of a sudden? The answer is provided by the bitter hardships that have come upon the country on account of the complete collapse of her economic structure, since her entry in the present war.

Italy started planning her war-time economy not only on German lines, but as a 'joint' action under Berlin lead and within a very short time became increasingly dependent on German collaboration in respect of her entire economic organization. According to Dr. Funk, German-Italian trade, which amounted to Rm. 650 millions in 1939, rose to Rm. 2,000 by March 1942. Owing to a continuous passive trade balance with Germany Italy, according to agreements, has been compelled to send increasing quantities of agricultural products to the Reich by resorting to a rationing which extends over almost the whole range of foodstuffs. As all foodstuffs and raw materials go to feed German war machine, the schemes of rationing have imposed real hardships on the Italians. Per capita consumption of alimentary paste, the major item of consumption in the Italian diet, which was 40·58 kilograms in 1938, has since 1941 been reduced to 21 kilograms per year, the reduction being specially felt by low income groups. Difficulties in the administration of the various commodity controls are indicated in the publication during July 1941 of a law imposing heavy penalties (the death penalty in extreme instances) for hoarding, for destruction of goods or of the means of production and for non observance of fixed prices. Owing, however, to dwindling supplies of vital necessities, the food situation is growing more and more alarming. While the German needs do

not allow Italy to keep her foodstuffs for herself, it is not possible to import them from anywhere partly because of the blockade and partly because of German agreements with other European territories for prior delivery of their goods to the Reich only. As rationing has proved singularly ineffective, the worse the situation grows, the more blatant is the scramble of wealthy Italians to corner what stocks there are Much legislation has been passed but due to inept handling of schemes, the difficulty lies in securing its application The profiteering of shopkeepers, the determination of the peasants not to sell their produce, the maintenance of black markets by the rich and especially by the Blackshirts—all these factors have led to serious food offences throughout the country. There is considerable evidence of open enmity between woe-ridden Italians and the German soldiers. Hitler's Gestappo men—of whom fresh reinforcements always arrive as soon as there is some rising against Lebensraum—are however there to see that starving Italy delivers the goods, in spite of social discontent and apathy.

Next to the food problem is the growing shortage of labour. Since the beginning of the war, Italy has been forced to place at Germany's disposal all her man power. Within 18 months of belligerency a quarter million Italians became prisoners, half a million were drafted by the Duce for work in the land of Nazis and another half a million were absorbed somewhere in Greece and Russia. Starvation at home has led Italians to accept low-paid work in German factories. Italians are, however, told that the wages sent by these workers now exceed the sum of Rm. 1 million daily and that these accounts are going to play an important part in the German-Italian clearing system. Recently Signor Gayda urged his countrymen to go to the Reich in still greater numbers and to assist the mighty German industry. Food and labour are not the only shortages. Nearly everything else is in short supply —fuel, soap, clothing. Prices are skyrocketing as a result and a worst type of inflation is already threatening to bring down the entire economic structure of the Fascists. The economic picture is unquestionably one of terrible hardships, shared most inequitably between the rich and the poor. It clearly indicates the failure of Fascism economically as well as politically. It was Mussolini's notorious compatriot, the Chicago gangster Al Capone, who gave the true verdict of political science on his master's creed when he said of the Duce's "March on Rome" and the setting of a Fascist state "Gee, it's great racket, so long as you can keep the boys together". The 'boys' remained together on the spoils of Abyssinia, Spain, Albania and Greece but had to bow down and quit their places before Hitler, the master of their master and the destroyer of the power and property of their own country.

The failure of Fascism should not, however, be interpreted to mean that Germany is down and out. Italy is still a German colony; the Reich is still the arbiter of what are Italy's needs and what is most important. Italy is still dependent on Germany and cannot turn elsewhere. To get Italy out of the war would be an enormous psychological victory and a very substantial real convenience. But it is not Hitler's way to surrender a valuable position and if, permissible, he allows Italians to make terms with Allies, the United Nations should know where the catch is. The problem of Italy is now at the centre of Allied strategy and they should see that the Italians should get what they have been longing for so long—security from Fascists as well as from Nazis, bread, clothing and above all their individualism under a peaceful Government. With a view to achieving all this for Italians, the Allies should demand an unconditional surrender of Italian Government. Negotiations at this stage of favourable turn of tide either with Badoglio or with any other hurriedly produced substitute would be like bribing a way through a door which stands half open and might even, as already pointed out, further the concealed designs of Nazis who at present appear to be quite willing to hand over their useless and almost dead Ally to the care of others.

The Red Army: Origin and Early Development

BY DR. MAHMUD HUSAIN, Ph.D.,

University of Dacca

THE Red Army has been for some time very much in the news, and rightly. It has performed great feats of military glory. Its recent advances point to the liberation of the whole of Russia in no distant future. It is not necessary to give a detailed account of Soviet resistance. Let us, however, mention the main facts. On the 22nd June, 1941, began the Russo-German War. There was, in the words of Professor Namier, "a boastful challenge to History and fate in the choice of this date", for Napolean also had chosen June 22nd for the invasion of Russia. During the first days of the war, the German advance was sharp and quick. In the north, in the centre and in the south hundreds of miles were traversed within a few weeks until the German troops reached the outskirts of Moscow, besieged Leningrad, occupied the whole of the Ukraine and entered the Crimea. It seemed that all was lost. But it only seemed. All was not lost. The Germans thought they had won the war in the East. The Russians did not quite agree. Then came the first winter of the war and with it came German retreat. Winter over, the advance began once more but the advance was largely limited to the south, until the Germans reached Stalingrad. They actually occupied a part of it though it did not quite fall. In the meantime arrived the second winter of the war and the Germans were made to capitulate. This was in January, 1943. The defence of Stalingrad was a definite turning point in this gigantic struggle. Stalingrad decided once for all that Russia could not be conquered or subdued. There was, however, one intriguing question. How long was this game to go on—Germans advancing in summer and Russians pushing them back in winter? The summer of 1943 gave the answer. During this summer there was no further German advance. Indeed the boot was now on the other leg. The Russians, instead of the Germans, launched the summer offensive. The Russian advance made it clear that, however important a part winter might have played in the Russian War, winter alone was by no means the decisive factor. Winter, by itself, could not have helped Russia had there been no efficient fighting forces to take advantage of Russia's climate and space. Through their great tenacity and extraordinary courage, their burning love for their socialist commonwealth and what has been described as their "psychic resistance to defeat", they have been able to withstand successfully the greatest and most efficient military machine that was ever made by man.

In this brief review, we shall try to describe the origin and early development of the Red Army whose fighting qualities have won the admiration of friend and foe alike.

The first soldiers of the Bolshevik Revolution consisted of Red Guards. From the very beginning, the leaders of the Revolution recognized that Russia must have a regular army. The old army was in a state of disintegration. The creation of a new army, which would defend the new order, could not be postponed for long. Conscription was not considered advisable at this stage as the Russian people were sick of war and the Bolsheviks had all along been promising peace. The new army could therefore be only raised on a voluntary basis. The conditions of recruiting were laid down in a Soviet decree published in January, 1918, and within two and a half months more than 100,000 recruits were enlisted. But as a fighting force this army was no good. Its efficiency was below the average. All sorts of uniforms were put on by its members; some even wore civilian clothes. This was perhaps not so important. What was really bad was that the soldiers lacked proper discipline. They did not receive even the most elementary military training and were distinguished by complete lack of organization. The soldiers behaved exactly in the way as if they were workers in a factory. They held meetings, questioned the validity and suitability of the orders from above and made all sorts of demands with regard to food and clothing and pay. "Either give us", said a delegate to a conference of

soldiers in March, 1918, "300 rubles a month with food, clothing and lodging or we will show the Council of Peoples' Commissars that we are able to defend our interests." Many bandits and criminals also joined the Red Army. No wonder, whenever opportunity arose they took to looting and plundering. Their behaviour was making the Soviet Government itself unpopular in Russia. These forces might be useful against the anti-Soviet Russian troops but against the regular armies of the Germans in the Ukraine and the Czechs in Siberia, they were totally helpless. A radical reform of the army was necessary if the Soviet regime was to succeed against its powerful enemies, external and internal. The Bolshevik leaders, especially Trotzky, the War Commissar, were not blind to the weakness of their army. They recognized that Soviet Russia should possess first-class armed forces organized on the principles of modern warfare. But these could be built up only with the co-operation of military experts. Trotzky took up this question of reorganization in all seriousness. He succeeded in creating a new army. To begin with, on March 1st, 1918, a Supreme War Council was created. This was followed by the establishment in April 1918, of territorial commissariats in the provinces, districts and towns which were responsible for the military training of the people. Then, by a decree of April 22, conscription was introduced for all workers and peasants of 18 to 40 years of age. The propertied classes were excluded although they could be made use of for difficult and dirty non combatant tasks in the rear. The practice of electing officers was abolished and strict obedience was enforced. With the stabilization of the Soviet regime the principle of conscription was extended to the whole population, although the formerly well to do classes were still forbidden to bear arms.

The Red Army on August 1st, 1918, numbered 331,000, but the number increased to 800,000 by the end of the year. This army, however, was too small for the tasks ahead. And Lenin decided to have an army of 3 million. This figure was reached by January, 1920. The number went on increasing until by the end of 1920 it came to 5½ million. But the army still suffered from shortage of arms and equipment. Large-scale desertions were not uncommon. Even more serious was the problem of getting politically reliable officers. Trotzky thought that the Soviet Army could not do without the old officers and this view was ultimately accepted. Weapons of propaganda and terrorism were employed to ensure the loyalty of the officers who numbered about fifty thousand.

Apart from officers of the old army the Red Army included a large number of graduates who came out of the Soviet military schools. Many of them distinguished themselves, particularly in the later stages of the civil war.

Intensive educational propaganda was a characteristic feature of the Red Army. Opinion was moulded by lectures, posters and pledges. Every soldier was expected to take a 'socialist oath' which included the following. "Before the working classes of Russia and of the whole world, I vow to bear this name (*i.e.*, warrior) with honour, to study military affairs conscientiously and to guard the people's and military property, as the apple of my eye, against spoiling and theft. . . . I vow to come out in defence of the Soviet Republic against all dangers and attacks by all its enemies at the first summons of the Workers' and Peasants' Government, and in the struggle for the Soviet Republic, for the cause of socialism and brotherhood of peoples, not to spare either my strength or life itself."

The war in Russia produced many a hero but all these are overshadowed by the extremely colourful personality of Trotzky. Himself without any military experience, he produced a first-class fighting force really out of nothing and led it to victory. No one would suggest that he never committed any mistakes, but he more than made up for his mistakes by his remarkable capacity for organization. He was a man of abounding energy. His special train carrying among other things a library, a radio transmitter, a telegraph station, a printing press and a small garage was constantly on the move and from here he guided the conduct of the civil war and finally succeeded in bringing the whole of Russia under the Red flag.

FIRST THINGS FIRST

BY MR. ALLAN KNIGHT

IN an article in the *New York Herald* Forum (mentioned in Indian newspapers of November 19, 1942), Mr. Wendell Wilkie stated:—

> I tell you we cannot fight this war in silence, whatever our experts say. In order that we may win real victory, we must encourage to the utmost the amount of discussion among ourselves and with our Allies.

Most people will agree with this view. No commander, having surrounded a place, looks at it from one side only when planning his assault. He looks at it from every angle and nowadays from on top also—from an airplane. So must the United Nations do. They must debate every point if they are to be prepared for all eventualities. And it is only when one has faced the worst squarely that one's morale does not crack come what may.

The United Nations must try and prevent the circumstances which may force on them the supreme test and the frequent meetings between Roosevelt and Churchill are no doubt directed to this end.

Now that the tide has turned in favour of the United Nations and we are strong in every way, we can contemplate the worst with greater courage. Apart from actual defeat—which is now out of the question—the worst that can happen is the prolongation of the war.

This aspect of the matter has not been kept hidden. Mr. Churchill has always sounded the warning that we must be prepared for a long war. In his world-wide broadcast on November 29, 1942, he uttered a note of caution and warning that a hard struggle was ahead. Again, in his broadcast on March 21, 1943, he stated he could not share the optimism that the war would soon be over. On this occasion he said: "Speaking under every reserve and not attempting to prophesy, I can imagine that some time next year—but it may well be the year after—we might beat Hitler." The war can, however, become a much more protracted affair.

The question of the length of the war brings us to the crucial point which has to be considered whether it is palatable or unpalatable. This aspect of the case has been brought to the front of the declaration by Russia that she does not want a long war and by Russia's insistence that a proper second front be opened immediately by the Anglo-American forces. By the landing on the mainland of Italy, Roosevelt and Churchill have visibly demonstrated that they mean to follow up, without delay, the grand victories in Tunisia and Sicily. What they will do, apart from the landing in Italy, is not disclosed; but no doubt it will be plain for all to see very shortly.

Unfortunately the idea has already gained ground that the morale of the Germans is already cracking. This is a dangerous notion; for its psychological effect is that there may be something less than an all-out onslaught on German might. Nothing less than hurling the entire mass of Anglo-American forces against the Germans will do. The Tunisian and Scicilian affairs have been, after all, for the Germans, nothing but sideshows. Much more than these achievements, marvellous as they have been, is necessary if the minimum requirements laid down by the Russians are to be satisfied. Russia has been fighting since June 22, 1941, on a huge front. The Russian forces have been driven back hundreds of miles. All the horrors of conquest by an enemy, at once mighty and barbarous, have been experienced by millions of the Russian people. Germany may be tiring of the struggle against the Russian bear, but the Russian bear, with many wounds, is also tired and is crying loudly for help.

This picture is a very gloomy one. While it is not probable, it is possible, and, being possible, it is one which must be faced. We have induced Italy to make a separate peace. The Germans can follow similar tactics with regard to Russia. If Germany and Russia were to make a separate peace, the period of the war would be extended a long way beyond what Churchill's speeches contemplate. To overcome the whole might of the German war machine would indeed be a long and arduous task for the British and Americans. To us in the East, this picture is all the more serious and frightful; for, after struggling over a

significance. According to Mimamsa, which is the system of Vedic exegesis in its Dharma aspect, such an injunction is the main feature of the Vedas; any portion of the Veda which is not directly an injunction, has to be related to an injunction as a subordinate adjunct. There is no part of the Veda which can be completely dissociated from an injunction.

From this it would appear that man's entire life is dominated by an inexorable authority, that man lives in a gloom from which there is no escape, that he is oppressed by incessant terrorism. It would also appear that the Vedas with their inevitable "shall" hold complete sway over the whole nation and that the Brahmins as the costodians of the Vedic lore, had the life of man and his destiny after death under their mercy. It is no wonder that one hears much of authoritarianism, of Brahminical tyranny and submission to the inevitable as conspicuous features in Hinduism. One also hears with a sense of relief of the liberation of man from this slavery by Buddhism.

But one has to realize that language has its limitations. Language means what it is taken to mean. There is nothing absolute in the relation of words and meanings. The exact meaning of the term "shall" must be known from the interpretation put on it. We have no right to translate a Sanskrit term in an arbitrary way into English and then to read the significance of the English equivalent so chosen into the Sanskrit original. In Sanskrit we have a verb in the injunctive mood. The English word "shall" is not identical with it. The meaning of the Sanskrit injunctive mood must be understood from the interpretation of it in Sanskrit itself.

The dominant note in ancient Indian thought is that of freedom, freedom of the individual. Courage in facing facts, fearless adhesion to truth, unequivocal statements of what are ascertained as true, and strength to readily accept the consequences of such devotion to truth—these are all some of the rare qualities acknowledged as unique in the Indian intellect. Therefore the meaning of the injunctive mood in Indian Scripture must be explained as falling in line with the general atmosphere in Indian thought, indicated in Sanskrit literature itself.

The system of Mimamsa, which is mainly concerned with the interpretation of the Vedas as authority for man's Dharma, considers the injunctive mood in the Vedas as the most important point deserving close scrutiny. The Sastra itself begins with the passage, "then, therefore there is the desire to know Dharma." Dharma means both law and also conduct in conformity with law. Such a law must be known by all. The Vedas are the source books for law and as such the study of the Vedas is obligatory on all citizens. This implies that higher education, without which the study of the Vedas is impossible, is also obligatory on a citizen. It is not enough if a citizen conducts himself in conformity with law. He should know that his life conforms to the requirements of law and it is only in this way that he would have discharged his obligation to the State as a worthy citizen. Conformity in conduct with law as imposed on an ignorant or submissive citizen is not enough for a really civilized life, according to the Vedic notions of civic responsibility. And here, it is not a mere knowledge of law that is meant. Jijnasa, which is the word used in the beginning of the Mimamsa, literally means the desire to know; it means also knowledge after careful consideration and examination; it means discriminating knowledge. He should know not merely what he should do or what he should not do as a citizen; he should also know why it is so. A State can function efficiently only if there is the willing and discriminating co-operation of all its citizens in an orderly civic life.

It is true that the opening passage in the Mimamsa prescribes only the study of the Vedas as an obligatory duty for sacrifices. But it must be recognized that the Vedas prescribe not merely the religious obligations of man but also his secular obligations, in so far as the Dharmasutras (dealing with civic duties) are as much a part of the literature forming an adjunct of Vedic exegesis as the Srauta and the Grihyasutras (the literature dealing with sacrifices and domestic rituals). Thus

whatever is stated in reference to man's religious duties has also equal reference to his secular duties. Therefore if the Vedas are to be studied as a matter of obligation for his religious life, the secular law also must be studied by a citizen as a matter of civic duty. The study of both are equally obligatory. This is implied in the opening passage of the Mimamsa.

There are certain things which a citizen should do as a matter of course, he has no choice in the matter. There are certain other things which every citizen should do under certain specific conditions. There are still others which the citizen is at liberty to do, he can do them if he desires a particular benefit. Thus Dharma—conduct according to law—comes under the three classes of nitya (obligatory), naimittika (obligatory under specific conditions) and kamya (optional). Law under these three heads apply to all.

Man is assumed to be good by nature, and if he knows what he should do as an obligatory duty or as an optional choice, he will do it as a result of his innate good nature. It is not necessary to prove that a good thing is really good. Man, being good by nature, has a natural aptitude to understand a good thing as good and he does what is good. Thus it is not necessary that law is proved to be right. Law is taken as right as a matter of course. It is only defects in law that must be pointed out and remedied. Law, what one must do, has application to all and it is the duty of every one to know what the law is.

There may be a few who are tempted to do what is not good through some defect in them, either because they do not know that it is a bad thing or because they hope for some advantage by doing it even after knowing that it is bad. In the case of those few exceptions among the citizens, statements of what should not be done are also needed in a code of law. Such prohibitory statements have application only to the few who may go wrong. For this reason, prohibitory statements (nishedhas) are relegated to a subordinate position in Vedic law. They do not assume the prominence which the ten commandments or the Panchasila (five vows) have in other religions. It is only a positive good that constitutes virtuous life; abstinence from evil does not make a man virtuous. This is quite manifest even in the Gayatri which the Hindus recite daily. Here the prayer is not to guard the mind against wandering into evil channels. The Gayatri prayer is to guide the mind along the path of good deeds and to inspire the mind to do what is good.

It is the essence of a virtuous deed that is prescribed by a law that in respect of that deed an individual is absolutely free to do it or not to do it or to do it in some other way. Law is only law and gets its authority and sanction only from itself. There is no god to reward the virtuous or to punish the wicked. Rewards and punishments are within the law itself. Law does not reflect the divine will, nor the will of the wise men nor even the will of the majority. Law does not operate in any such capacity. Law is an eternal and immutable factor in this universe. A divine incarnation or a wise man can see the law; but they cannot make or alter the law.

The individual has a free will. He can act in conformity with law; he can abstain from activities in conformity with law, he can act in his own way not conforming to law. The fundamental fact in law is that an individual must have the capacity to do what the law prescribes. If a man can only do and has no liberty to abstain from doing or to do in his own way deviating from law, we cannot reasonably speak of his ability to do it. Ability necessarily presupposes choice, freedom to do or not to do or to do in another way. If a man obeys law it is simply because he knows it is law; he has the freedom to do it and also the ability to do it. There is no agency that can compel him to obey law.

When man is good there is no need for such an outside agency to enforce law. The fact that Vedic law does not postulate a god or any such external agency to enforce law indicates the high civilization of the age. Men were enlightened; they were free. In the hands of such a civilized community, law operates by itself. Man is by nature good and when he knows what is good, there is

an inner urge to do that which he knows to be good. The only factor that prompts a man to act according to law is his knowledge that it is law—whether the act prescribed by the law is obligatory or optional. In the case of the latter, namely, acts prescribed by law as optional, there is a definite fruit also. But in what is prescribed as obligatory, there is no such specific fruit. Even in the case of such an obligatory act, the individual is free to do or not to do or to do in another way. If he does not do, there will be some evil consequence. In doing it, he gets nothing specific. The only fruit is that he is recognized as conforming to prescribed ways. Thus the inner urge or the sense of civic responsibility is the only prompting force in the obedience to law.

There is another school of thought—perhaps a later development—according to which what prompts a citizen to act in conformity with law is a knowledge that such a conduct would bring him some benefit. According to this school, the fruit is a vital factor in law as prompting the individual to conform to law.

In this way there are two interpretations of the injunctive mood in the Vedic prescriptions of right conduct. According to one interpretation, an injunctive mood conveys the idea that the statement is a statement of law as distinct from a statement of facts. According to the other school, the injunctive mood conveys the idea that the verb denotes an action that is capable of generating a beneficial result. Either, a feeling that it is law creates an urge in the mind of man to act in conformity with law; or, a feeling that there would be some beneficial result generated by acting in conformity with law leads to an activity which conforms to law. But no school of interpretation accepts an outside agency that compels obedience to law, that has a sanction to punish those who violate law; the absolute freedom of the individual in the State is the basic principle in the interpretation of an injunction according to all schools of Mimamsa.

It is true that according to the Logicians (the Nyaya school), the Vedas derive their authority from being the expression of the divine will. God prescribes rewards and punishments for good and evil deeds. But the interpretation of law is not a vital thing in the school and the Vedas are accepted as authority only in so far as the Vedas are there. According to this school, man's reasoning faculty is self-sufficient and the Vedas are superfluous. When we speak of law, we must take into consideration that school of thought in which Vedic interpretation is the chief item. And this school is the Mimamsa school. According to this school, man is absolutely free, unhindered in his life even by a god. This absolute freedom of the individual in the State, as much as his freedom in his religious life, is the fundamental doctrine of the Vedic civilization as preserved in the Mimamsa.

BUDDHA AND SUPRIYA

"Who among you will take up the duty of feeding the hungry?" Lord Buddha asked his followers when famine raged at Shravasti.

Ratnakar, the banker, hung his head and said, "Much more is needed than all my wealth to feed the hungry."

Jaysen, the Chief of the King's army, said, "I would gladly give my life's blood, but there is not enough food in my house."

Dharmapal, who owned broad acres of land, said with a sigh: "The drought demon has sucked my fields dry. I know not how to pay the King's dues."

Then rose Supriya, the mendicant's daughter.

She bowed to all meekly and said, "I will feed the hungry."

"How!" they cried in surprise. "How can you hope to fulfil that vow?"

"I am the poorest of you all," said Supriya, "that is my strength. I have my coffer and my store at each of your house."

Rabindranath Tagore.

STANDARD CLOTH

By Mr. V. G. RAMAKRISHNAN, M.A.

THE standard cloth scheme was first mooted by the Commerce Department of the Government of India in view of the acute cloth shortage and abnormal prices. It was first proposed that the standard cloth at 33⅓ per cent. below the market price should be made available to the public. It was also believed that 5 per cent. of the looms in the country would be exclusively reserved for the production of standard cloth and then gradually production would be stepped up by increasing the percentage reservation to twenty. The possibilities of enlarging the scope of the handloom industry were also engaging the attention of the Government of India.

According to the plan, standard cloth will consist of *dhotis*, *saris* and *shirtings* It will be sold at a price giving a small margin of profit to the manufacturer and to the distributor. The selling prices will be revised periodically in order to adjust them to fluctuations in the cost of production and will be uniform throughout the country. A central organization for the production and distribution of standard cloth was set up in Bombay on the lines of the Textile Advisory Panel. This body will place indents with the manufacturers for the production of standard cloth and allocate quotas to the consuming Provinces on a population basis. A standard cloth commissioner was appointed with headquarters at Bombay. The Provincial Governments were given the choice of undertaking the financial responsibility involved in the marketing of standard cloth or entrusting to a guaranteed broker or agent who will be given a commission of 1 per cent. on all sales. The retail sellers will be paid about 8 per cent. on sales *plus* Rs. 50 per shop per month for expenses. It will be the duty of the retail seller to keep a record of the names and addresses of the persons who buy standard cloth from the shop. The standard cloth commissioner is assisted by a standard cloth panel and will advise the Government of India on all matters concerning the manufacture, transport and distribution and sale of standard cloth and the fixing of prices for the purchase and sale of such cloth. Provincial Governments interested in the development of handloom industry—Madras and Bihar—have taken active steps to increase handloom production.

The scheme of the Government of India to manufacture and supply standard cloth has been still further developed to meet the varied tastes. Over 100 varieties are now being manufactured by the Indian coton mills under the standard cloth scheme of the Government of India. The Provincial Governments have completed arrangements for the distribution of standard cloth. The scheme was launched in April, 1943, with an initial order of 25 million yards comprising 33 varieties and this was followed in May, 1943, by another order for 150 million yards of 66 varieties. Now under the revised scheme of the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies, evolved in June last, the number of varieties manufactured has been increased to 100.

The working of the standard cloth scheme has created important problems both in regard to the manufacture of standard cloth goods and their distribution. The mills have been grouped in 8 panel areas according to their location. These are Bombay, Baroda, Central India, U. P., Bengal, South India, Ahmedabad, Punjab and Delhi. The standard cloth commissioner is collecting data in respect of their respective maximum capacities to manufacture particular varieties. This information will enable Provincial Governments and Indian States to distribute their orders over the various varieties without delay and loss of efficiency and will facilitate quick despatch of the cloth and prevent piling up of stocks in the manufacturing centres. The standard cloth has become increasingly popular with the poor consumers, particularly in our Province, and with more varieties on the market shortly, sales are expected to be very brisk. Some of the Provincial Governments and Indian States have been selling the cloth through Government agency. In the Province of Bombay, besides Provincial Advisory Committees constituted to advise Government, District Magistrates have been asked to set up non-official committees to advise

them on distribution. Distribution of the cloth has been arranged through official and non-official agencies, such as 'fair price' shops, taluka development associations, rural development boards, and co-operative institutions. As supplies are increasing, District Magistrates have been asked to utilize the services of retailers for the purpose of distribution and standard cloth is to be sold up to a limit of 15 yards a person.

In our Province the scheme for the production of handloom standard cloth to supply cheap and durable cloth at reasonable prices to the public is now completed. Under the present scheme, yarn is obtained from the mills at concessional prices and distributed to the collective weaving centres and weavers' societies in the Presidency to be converted into cloth (mainly *dhotis* and *saris*) which is marketed at controlled prices through co-operative stores and emporiums. But the present marketing arrangements have been found from experience to be inadequate and unless the marketing organization is greatly improved, the scheme which depends for its success on a rapid turnover of the cloth produced, cannot be made to produce appreciable quantities of the cloth. But this scheme is only complementary to the mill-made standard cloth scheme and it is recognized that in addition to existing co-operative agencies, arrangements must be made for sale of handloom standard cloth through normal trade channels. In order to give necessary impetus to the sale of handloom standard cloth, the personal interest of the Collectors in the districts is essential for the success of the scheme. The handloom standard cloth in Madras is slightly more expensive than mill-made standard cloth but it is more durable and caters more exactly to the requirements and tastes of the people of the Province and is offered on a variety of colours and border designs. The production of handloom standard cloth will not only meet the needs of consumers but it is also the best method under the present conditions of providing continuous employment and fair wages for the largest number of handloom weavers.

A dealer in handloom standard cloth, unlike the dealer in mill-made standard cloth, can sell any quantity at any time and also give credit to buyers. A dealer in mill-made standard cloth can also undertake the sale of handloom standard cloth provided he sells them in separate shops. While a commission of 3 per cent. on the ex-mill price is allowed to a mill-made standard cloth dealer, a commission of 3 per cent. on the retail price is allowed to a dealer in handloom standard cloth.

When the Government of India first contemplated the production of standard cloth, the Madras Government openly expressed their great concern for the welfare of the handloom weavers in the Province where the handloom industry is the main occupation of as many as 15 lakhs of people. But later on the Government changed their attitude and it was decided that Madras also should have a major quota of mill standard cloth, though it was promised at the same time that the handloom weavers will not be excluded from the scheme of producing cheap cloth. When the question of actual production of cheap cloth had to be tackled, the scheme, as far as it concerned handloom weavers, was entrusted to the Madras Handloom Weavers' Provincial Co-operative Society, Limited, in which the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, the Director of Industries, the Provincial Yarn Commissioner are ex-officio Directors with two non-official representatives for the working of the scheme of handloom cheap cloth. To start with, the primary weavers' societies were required to take up the production of cheap cloth on terms dictated by the Provincial Co-operative Society. In the early stages, the several primary weavers' societies referred to the varying wage-rates in the different localities and it was suggested that their differences should be fully taken into account. But the Provincial Society proposed to obtain yarn at panel rates—which were then much lower than the market rates—from the South Indian Mills, to allocate a portion for the production of cheap cloth and to utilize the balance for the production of normal cloth by selling yarn to the primary societies at rates a little less than the prevailing market rates. By so doing, the Provincial Society expected to earn huge profits through the sale of yarn for producing normal

cloth and its monopolistic production and sale of cheap handloom cloth.

The appointment of the Textile Control Board and the cotton cloth and yarn control order totally upset the yarn and cloth market. At this stage, the mill standard cloth began to be dumped into the market at rates much cheaper than those of handloom cheap cloth. The public who were imagining that the mill standard cloth will be of very poor texture and finish were obliged to revise their opinion when they actually saw the mill cloth with its calendering effects. While the mill standard cloth is thus pushing through the market, no satisfactory arrangements were made for the distribution and sale of the handloom cheap cloth. The public began to complain that the handloom cloth was inferior to the mill standard cloth in texture and finish and its price is higher than that of the mill standard cloth. The stocks produced began to accumulate in the primary societies and in the emporiums for want of adequate arrangements for their release. Most of the weavers' societies have begun to feel diffident whether their stocks of cheap cloth could be sold at all. The handloom cheap cloth has fallen into disrepute not only on account of its unattractiveness but also its high price which is the direct result of the high panel prices at which yarn is supplied by the mills to the weavers through the Provincial Handloom Weavers' Society. It is not possible for the handloom weavers to compete with the mills in the production of cheap standard cloth so long as the yarn is supplied to the weavers at such high prices. In order to enable the handlooms to sell the cheap cloth at rates equal to, if not lower than those of the mill standard cloth, the panel prices of yarn supplied to the weavers should be adequately reduced.

WIN THE WAR AND WIN THE PEACE

BY MR. S. DAVID MICHAEL, M.A., L.T.,

St. Xavier's College, Palamcottah

A REVIEW of the recent achievements of the United Nations and the war situation to day calls for a spirit of thankfulness for the past. Having lost Bougainville and New Britain, the Japanese feel that their strength is being whittled away. The German African Corps has been pounded up and the enemy does not hold an inch of territory in that continent. The U-boat menace has been overcome, ending with the destruction of the Scharnhorst. Our fight in Italy has been stiff and successful, though not speedy and sensational. Bulgaria is more Pro-Russian than ever, and longs for succour from without. General Tito and Premier Ribar of Yugoslovia are getting substantial aid from and keeping close contact with the Allies. Pre-war Poland is covered by the Red Army assisted by the Polish guerillas. The most significant is the Russian dash for a break through to be followed by a rush to the Baltic shores. The German armies are reeling and retreating. Their great towns are tottering beneath the blows of our Allied Airmen. The news of the Second Front team rallying together is a further indication of what is in store for Germany. Indeed "the hour of reckoning has come for the Germans." Even as Dr. Faustus before the advent of Mephistophiles, Adolf Hitler must be maddened in a diabolical mood of despair and horror.

In this war, the part that our Indian Fighting Forces have played has been universally accepted as "magnificent." In the Middle East theatre, they were the mainstay of the Allies. They have successfully fought the battle of Africa from Sidi Barrani to the glorious Tunis, and brought Italy to her knees. They are holding Syria, Iraq, and Persia—and the line of communication open right into European Russia. Another stream of our Veterans is pouring into Italy, and they will not stop their onward march till they are the first to lay their hands on the walls of Berlin and hurl "the beast of Europe" from his infamous cave!

At home, the war against selfishness and social injustice, demonstrated in hoarding and profiteering and so forth, has not been less successful either. These have been combated by a drastic policy of Price Control, Rationing and Savings Drive which have all met with a ready and sincere response by the peoples at large. We are indeed grateful to the Almighty for so much mercy and love.

What about the future? "*Si vis bellum, para pacem*" is a Latin obiter dictum—"If we want a victorious war, we must already foresee peace." We must win the war; but let us also spare no pains to win the peace. Post-war reconstruction is foremost a problem of justice. It is true alike in the national and inter-national order. The dictatorship of a mere majority is as odious as the Axis Totalitarianism. What is essential for a just and stable social order is the application of the principle of integral humanism—no over-emphasis on any aspect of human nature. Only that will ensure just and equitable relationship between man and man, group and group, government and people, and state and state. All that is possible only in a spirit of compromise both within and outside a Nation. I hope and trust that young India, imbued with that spirit, in the times to come will effect a political harmony, "never deserting the vision of a better world, more humane society, and self-mastery in the warfare of the soul."

CHANDRAGUPTA VIKRAMADITYA

THE HARUN AL RASHID OF HINDU TALES

By Mr. K. S. P. IYER

THE period of the imperial Guptas to which Chandragupta Vikramaditya belonged is looked upon in Indian history as the Golden Age of Hinduism. It was during the Gupta period that India emerged from her dark ages of obscurity into that of prosperity and glory.

The seed for the Golden Age was sown by Chandragupta Maurya of the Maurya dynasty and sprouted during the time of Chandragupta I of the Gupta dynasty. The actual stage for glorification and resplendence was set by Samudragupta, Chandragupta I's son, who according to the promise to his father, carried on *digvijaya*, the conquest of the four quarters, a task imposed by tradition on all Kshatriya rulers who aspired for greatness.

The empire created by a father was well consolidated by the son and the Golden Age actually reached its zenith at the time of Chandragupta II's (Vikramaditya) reign, in whose memory celebrations will come off in the first week of April.

At his accession to the throne Chandragupta II styled himself *Vikramaditya* (Sun of Valour) and is known more by this name. And he fully substantiated the honour by his magnificent achievements.

The capital was changed from Pataliputra to Ayodhya of the Ramayana fame.

Chandragupta Vikramaditya not only inherited an extensive empire from his father, Samudragupta, but himself conquered and annexed great territories, including Kathiawar and Gujerat and the important seaports of Broach and Cambay which afforded him opportunities to renew trade intercourse with Egypt and the west.

The empire actually stretched from the modern boundary of the Punjab in the north-west to the Ganges delta in the east and from the Himalayas southwards to the line of the river Narbadha, but excluding Sind and most of the parts of Rajputana. Thus it was the greatest consolidated Hindu empire that India has ever known.

It was during the reign of Chandragupta and his son Kumaragupta that Hinduism achieved in literature its classical age. Ujjain, which grew in importance due to the increase in volume of trade with the west, and where the King held his court for most of his reign, also became the seat of learning and literature. To-day Ujjain is famous as a place of pilgrimage on account of the sacred river Sipra and

though once the zero meridian of Hindu geographers, its observatory still supplies important data for Hindu almanac-makers.

Kalidasa, the greatest of all Hindu poets and dramatists and who is more known as the Indian Shakespeare adorned the Age, composing many poems and plays, such as the *Ritu Samhara* (Cycle of Seasons), the *Megadhuta* (Cloud Messenger) and the dramatic masterpiece *Sakuntala*. There lived also the well-known author Bhartrihari who wrote the *Sringara Sataka* (Century of Love). There were many other well known writers who far excelled in literature.

In science the Age was not at all lacking. Aryabhata maintained then that the earth rotated on its axis while Brahmagupta held the later Newton's theory that "All things fall to earth by a law of nature".

The Gupta Age is of unique importance to India as it was during this time that Sanskrit was adopted as the language of the educated classes and the first period in which writing came into general use in place of oral tradition.

The Gupta Era again marks the triumph of orthodox Brahminism as the rules and principles which govern and guide the Hindu conduct were established and crystallized. So to say that the great mission of the well-known Brahmin, Kautilya (Chanakya), author of the Great Artha Sastra (Political Science) and who caused the overthrow of the Nanda dynasty—the Nandas exterminated the Kshatriya kings of the time and Kautilya took revenge and re-established the Kshatriya Raj—and inaugurated the Kshatriya rule by consecrating Chandragupta of the Maurya dynasty as king, was quite fulfilled. The Mahabaratha, which in its original oral form was an Indian equivalent of a Homeric epic, was recast so as to give it more religious value and for the first time the great celestial song of Shree Krishna—The Bhagavad Githa—was incorporated in the Mahabaratha. The Hindu Dharma Sastras were compiled and codified and a special code entitled the Law of Manu was drawn out defining the different duties and acts to be observed by different castes.

Even in architecture the period had advanced a lot inasmuch as the secret of massive stone building was fully discovered. The famous iron pillar at Delhi testifies to the marvellous iron works of the age which still remains a marvel.

As to the administration side it was fully commended upon by the famous Chinese pilgrim, Fa Hien, who entered India during the time of Vikramaditya by the dangerous route over the Pamirs and Hindu Kush with the object of studying the Indian conditions and collect whatever manuscript available. He stayed from 405 A.D. to 411 A.D. Fa Hien very vividly described the conditions of the time as follows —

> The people are numerous and happy; they are not to register their households or attend to any magistrates and their rules; only those who cultivate the royal land have to pay a portion of the gain from it. If they want to go they go; if they want to stay on, they stay. The King governs without decapitation or other corporal punishment; criminals are simply fined lightly or heavily according to the circumstances. Even in repeated attempts at wicked rebellion, they only have their right hands cut off. The King's bodyguard and attendants all have salaries.

And again Fa Hien says that apart from the dangers likely to be encountered from wild beasts, there was no sort of any molestation. This forms a glowing testimony to the fact that the land was well policed and the people well trained citizens, law abiding and exemplary in their mode of behaviour.

Chandragupta Vikramaditya ruled from 380 A.D. to 415 A.D. Like his father, Samudragupta, he was a great warrior king and a man of action showing the qualities of a true Kshatriya king. He was also a wise ruler, a great lover of arts and literature and patronised artists and great scholars who flourished in his country.

Chandragupta is known as the Harun al Rashid of Hindu tales. It is fancied that in all probability the "Raja Bikram" of the Hindu legend at whose court flourished the "Nine Gems" of literature should be no other than Chandragupta Vikramaditya.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

THE HISTORY OF BENGAL, VOL. I, HINDU PERIOD. Edited by R. C. Majumdar. The University of Dacca, Dacca.

Well printed on good paper and beautifully bound, this finely produced volume, the first of three in which the history is to be carried down to 1757, reflects great credit on the University of Dacca which has not allowed war conditions to put off the execution of the scheme started as early as 1935. This is a history of Bengal by the scholars of Bengal; but it is written throughout in the best tradition of modern scientific historical writing, and the reader seldom comes across any chauvinistic attempt to establish the particular superiority of Bengal to the rest of India, or to deny the facts of history; in fact foreign conquests of and raids into Bengal are sometimes admitted on what appear to be somewhat inadequate evidence.

The plan of writing strikes a happy mean between the heavy scholarly monograph, and vague popular writing without reference to sources, and the narrative in the text is throughout clear and generally holds the interest of the reader. Copious references to sources are given in the notes which contain discussions of rival views, while specially important or knotty questions are relegated to special Appendices to the particular chapters touching on those questions. The political history occupies the first nine chapters, the rest of the book being given to a study of Administration, and social life, including literature, religion, art, industry and trade. Brief select bibliographies are provided for each chapter and there is an excellent index. The plates contain nearly 200 illustrations of architecture and iconography calculated to aid the easy understanding of the chapters of the text on these subjects.

Altogether a comprehensive, scholarly and readable volume; we hope its successors would follow soon and the whole design completed according to plan at an early date.

A STUDY OF THE INDIAN MONEY MARKET. By Bimal C. Ghose. Oxford University Press. Rs. 7-8.

The economic conditions and problems of India have been studied from various angles by Economists; but studies relating to the Indian Money Market are very rare and it is for this reason that we welcome this descriptive and critical account of the Indian Money Market in general and of Calcutta Money Market in particular. Mr. Ghose has managed to give a clear and simple account of the functions and operations of the Money Market in India. The book is divided into three parts. The first part is a survey of the existing institutions of both organized and bazaar sections of the Money Market. The second part is devoted to the constitution and working of the Reserve Bank as the chief controlling agent of monetary credit in the country. It also describes in some detail, the working of the Money Market in Calcutta. The third part examines the long-term Capital Market and estimates the resources available annually to Calcutta Capital Market.

RABINDRANATH TAGORE. By Marjorie Sykes. Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd., Madras. Paper Edn. Re. 1-4. Cloth board Edition. Rs. 2-8.

In the fifteen chapters that comprise this book, we have a running account of the life and career of the great poet, interspersed with choice passages from his works. Designed for the young student and the general reader, it attempts to present Rabindranath as a man, a thinker and a poet and to present him in such a way as to awaken our desire to know more of the man and the poet. There are some striking portraits of the poet, taken at various stages of his life. The author has evidently been helped in the preparation of this work by the poet's son Rathindranath and other inmates of Santineketan to whom the publishers desire to express their indebtedness.

POONA RESIDENCY CORRESPONDENCE. Vol. II. Daulat Rao Sindhia's Affairs, 1804—1809. Edited by N. B. Roy. Government Central Press, Bombay.

The relations of the British with the Sindhia State were complex and the diplomatic correspondence with that State is schemed to cover 5 volumes, of which this present book is the fourth, and deals with the fortunes of the unfortunate Daulat Rao Sindhia in the critical years from the Treaty of Burhanpur to the fateful combination of his ministers, Ghatge and Ingle in 1809 In the first years of this period, Daulat Rao recovered a portion of his lost power and presumed on an unlimited freedom of operations in Rajputana and Central India, producing in the sequel, the heart-rending tragedy of the barbarous immolation of Princess Krishnakumari of Udaipur. Sindhia's purposeless interference in the confused politics of his powerless neighbours led to no good for him. The letters have been carefully edited with brief summaries and a clear chronological table at the end. They reveal the varying views and capacities of the British Agents with the Sindhia, who was hastened on by them to the crippling end. The letters of Resident Close containing some acute observations are very revealing of the real condition of the Sindhia State at the time.

GANDHI ERA IN WORLD POLITICS. By Y. G. Krishnamurti. Foreword by Sir S. Radhakrishnan. The Popular Book Depot, Bombay. Rs. 3-12.

This book attempts to place Gandhian philosophy in the setting of present-day world politics. Political power joined with ethical power, says the writer, "is the hope of the human race. Gandhi has made a supreme effort to enact that union without ceasing to be realistic". The book is enriched with a foreword from the pen of Sir S. Radhakrishnan.

The coloured pictures of Gandhi and Nehru are an attractive feature of this study.

THE REVELATIONS OF SAINT MEIKANDAR. By Mr. Shuddanda Bharati. Anbu Nilayam, Ramachandrapuram, Trichy Dt. Rs. 1-8.

The author, who is familiar to the discerning public as an earnest writer on hagiology and other religious subjects, has produced a brief commentary on the aphorisms of Saint Meikandar, the founder of the body of thought known as 'Siddhanta', "the other dynamic system of philosophy, which is the great heritage of India", as he describes it after referring to the more well known 'Vedanta'.

The twelve aphorisms treat of the soul in relation to God, mind and body. As always in Hindu systems, they indicate how this soul is to attain salvation, the feet of the Lord.

The exposition is enthusiastic and knowledgeable. The book is a valuable addition to the corpus of South Indian hagiology.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE SACRIFICE OF SITA or the Essence of the Ramayana. By N. V Thadani, Hindu College, Delhi

PARAMOUNTCY AND INDIAN STATES. A study of Merger Plan By a student of Politics. The Topical Series, Walker Road, Nagpur.

CONVENTION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENCY. By Jagdish Prasad Gupta, B.A., LL.B Issued by the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene in India, Delhi.

NATIONALISM IS COMMUNALISM. By Narayan Sadashiv Bapat. Published by G. S. Bhapat, Karve Road, Poona.

A GUIDE TO PRACTICAL BANKING. By A. N. Khosla and B V Krishniah. Post Box 239, Lahore.

THE FLUTE (Second Edition) By P. Sambamoorthy. Indian Music Publishing House, 4, Bunder Street, Madras.

CITIZEN TOM PAINE. By Howard Fast. International Book House, Ltd., Bombay.

PAKISTAN AND NATIONAL UNITY. Ed. by G. Adhikari, Peoples' Publishing House, Bombay.

MAKERS OF NEW CHINA. By S. S. Bathwala, Peoples' Publishing House, Bombay. Re 2 4.

THE CRY OF DISTRESS. By K. Santanam A first-hand description and an objective study of the Indian famine of 1943. With numerous illustrations and Shankar's cartoons. Hindustan Times, Delhi. Re. 2.

SOME EMINENT GARHWALIS. By Shyam Chand Negi. Vidya Mandir, Ltd., New Delhi.

DR. SIR P. S. SIVASWAMI AIYAR

BY MR. G. A. NATESAN

THE celebration of the *Satabhishekam* on the 26th January of Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar recalls to one's mind the story of a singularly beneficent life.

As a student, Sivaswami Aiyar showed academic abilities of a high order. As a practising lawyer, he set an example to the members of his profession by his uprightness and fairness in presenting a case. As a Member of the Legislative Council and later of the Central Assembly, he has shown how one, though enjoying the reputation of being a Moderate, can present the case for the people as against the Government, in forcible and convincing language, and be unsparing in his denunciation of Government's policy when he has been convinced that it has deserved it. One has to remember in this connection, his memorable indictment of the Martial Law outrages following the Jallianwala Bagh massacre. One might also recall at the present moment, his strong condemnation of the short-sighted policy of the authorities in not affording facilities to the children of the soil for equipping themselves in the task of the defence of their motherland. As a Member of the Executive Council of the Government of Madras, he gave signal proofs of his talent for sound and efficient administration. As a citizen, in his own quiet and unostentatious manner, he has been participating in all movements that make for peace and progress, and has set a high standard of integrity in public life. Of him it can truly be said that on all questions affecting the interests of the country, he has spoken and written what he has always genuinely felt. With him there can be no compromise between right and wrong in any manner. To know him is to be irresistibly drawn to him by the silken tie of affection and respect. In him we have the finest embodiment of Eastern and Western culture.

It has been my good fortune to have known him for over four decades, and latterly to know him intimately. I can claim not only his friendship but his affection as well, which I have ever highly prized. An up-to-date student of the classics of the East and the West and of politics, religion and philosophy, he always has something interesting to present to those who seek his company. His wise learning, his great culture and his travels abroad, have endowed him with a breadth of vision which very few in our generation can lay claim to. His depth of understanding easily marks him out as a superior man. There is a singular dignity in the method and manner of his speech.

But the outstanding feature of his great and noble life will always be his well-conceived and well-planned benefactions. Only those that have come into intimate contact with him can testify to his burning desire to devote his large and well-earned savings amounting to several lakhs to the cause of the education of our boys and girls. The Tirukkattupalli High School which he has founded and fostered is one of the proofs of his discerning benefactions. Nearer home in the City of Madras, the National Girls' High School, Mylapore, is another gift of his. The scrupulous care which he has taken in rearing up these two institutions, the minute attention he has paid to laying down the plans for their efficient working, the way in which he has constituted their governing bodies, and the active interest which he even now continues to take in the day to day administration of both the institutions, is a rare sight indeed! Constantly thinking of his advancing age, he has been anxious day and night, to see the completion of his charities in his own lifetime. May he live long, and may the institutions he has brought into existence, thrive for ever.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference

THE third session of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference, which met at Madras on the 10th January under the presidentship of Mr. S A. Brelvi, Editor of the *Bombay Chronicle*, was attended by a strong contingent of journalists from all over the country.

Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor of the *Indian Review*, welcoming the delegates referred to the significant part which Madras had played in the history of the Press in India. Discussing measures which had been imposed for the control of the Press, Mr. Natesan pointed out that

there was no justification for the suggestion that any section of the Press was hindering the war effort. On the contrary, their relations with the Government had been characterised by a spirit of unstinted cooperation. It was far from their intention to create difficulties for the Government or to impede the war effort But they insisted that a free Press with a full sense of responsibility should be allowed to function, unhampered by the constant pinpricks which had in the case of some newspapers, led to grievous misunderstandings.

Speaking of the Press Advisory system in the Provinces and at the centre, he said that much still remained to be done.

Mr. Brelvi, in his presidential address, declared that

there was nothing in the present political situation in India to warrant restrictions on the Press, except those necessitated by purely military considerations.

On the contrary, the situation demanded that the Press should be absolutely unfettered to ventilate legitimate grievances, regarding for instance, the treatment of prisoners and detenus.

Mr. Brelvi expressed the opinion that the greatest good that the Conference and its various committees had done was

the fostering of the feeling of comradeship among editors throughout the country. The Conference had also engendered a feeling of comparative security among them, inasmuch as the Advisory System had served as a check against hasty, ill-considered and sometimes vindicative action by the executive against individual newspapers

In this connection and to improve working conditions, why, he asked, should not there be a Journalists' Charter?, and who was in a better position to formulate it than a Conference of Editors.

The Conference was in session for two days and adopted a number of important resolutions touching the freedom of the Press in India, and its relation to the Government in these trying times when war conditions have imposed severe restrictions on its freedom of action. The natural leaders of the people are in prison and most of the popular legislatures are under a sentence of suspension. The Press in India has therefore all the more need to be vigilant and it is in the light of this responsibility that the Conference adopted some significant resolutions.

The Indian Issue in Parliament

The Indian cause seems to be steadily gaining ground in England. Not that there is any immediate prospect of a definite turn in the direction of Indian affairs. For as yet the authorities seem determined to be adamant. But the continuance of the deadlock and the general criticism of British policy in India are naturally having their reaction on the public mind of England. Even a Tory stronghold like Skipton in Yorkshire, which for over a quarter of a century has been the bulwark of Conservative opinion, has returned a Commonwealth Party candidate Mr. Hugh Lawson who fought the elections and won it primarily on the Indian issue. His election address was as follows.

We fight for democracy and freedom. We should give that for which we are fighting to the Indian people. Only when we have removed from power men who have opposed even the modest demand of the Indian people, will it be possible for Indians to believe in our good faith! The social and economic problems of India can never be solved by a Government which is not Indian.

Interviewed by the United Press of India, Sir Richard Ackland, leader of the Commonwealth Party, said:

I want Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders to be released and the establishment now of a provisional National Government having the confidence of the Indian people. The Skipton people have given a clear verdict on the Indian issue.

This result may not have any dramatic effect on British policy but it undoubtedly shows which way the wind blows and it may not be all smooth sailing for the advocates of drift in Indian policy.

Mr. Casey as Governor of Bengal

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INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference

THE third session of the All-India *Newspaper Editors' Conference*, which met at Madras on the 10th January under the presidentship of Mr. S. A. Brelvi, Editor of the *Bombay Chronicle*, was attended by a strong contingent of journalists from all over the country.

Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor of the *Indian Review*, welcoming the delegates referred to the significant part which Madras had played in the history of the Press in India. Discussing measures which had been imposed for the control of the Press, Mr. Natesan pointed out that

there was no justification for the suggestion that any section of the Press was hindering the war effort On the contrary, their relations with the Government had been characterised by a spirit of unstinted cooperation. It was far from their intention to create difficulties for the Government or to impede the war effort But they insisted that a free Press with a full sense of responsibility should be allowed to function, unhampered by the constant pinpricks which had in the case of some newspapers, led to grievous misunderstandings.

Speaking of the Press Advisory system in the Provinces and at the centre, he said that much still remained to be done.

Mr. Brelvi, in his presidential address, declared that

there was nothing in the present political situation in India to warrant restrictions on the Press, except those necessitated by purely military considerations.

On the contrary, the situation demanded that the Press should be absolutely unfettered to ventilate legitimate grievances, regarding for instance, the treatment of prisoners and detenus.

Mr. Brelvi expressed the opinion that the greatest good that the Conference and its various committees had done was

the fostering of the feeling of comradeship among editors throughout the country. The Conference had also engendered a feeling of comparative security among them, inasmuch as the Advisory System had served as a check against hasty, ill-considered and sometimes vindicative action by the executive against individual newspapers

In this connection and to improve working conditions, why, he asked, should not there be a *Journalists' Charter?*, and who was in a better position to formulate it than a *Conference of Editors.*

The Conference was in session for two da and adopted a number of important resol tions touching the freedom of the Press India, and its relation to the Government these trying times when war conditio have imposed severe restrictions on i freedom of action. The natural leaders the people are in prison and most of th popular legislatures are under a sentence suspension. The Press in India has ther fore all the more need to be vigilant an it is in the light of this responsibility the the Conference adopted some significan resolutions.

The Indian Issue in Parliament

The Indian cause seems to be steadil gaining ground in England. Not tha there is any immediate prospect of definite turn in the direction of India affairs. For as yet the authorities seem determined to be adamant. But th continuance of the deadlock and th general criticism of British policy in India are naturally having their reaction on the public mind of England. Even a Tory stronghold like Skipton in Yorkshire, which for over a quarter of a century has been the bulwark of Conservative opinion, has returned a Commonwealth Party candidate Mr. Hugh Lawson who fought the elections and won it primarily on the Indian issue. His election address was as follows:

We fight for democracy and freedom. We should give that for which we are fighting to the Indian people. Only when we have removed from power men who have opposed even the modest demand of the Indian people, will it be possible for Indians to believe in our good faith! The social and economic problems of India can never be solved by a Government which is not Indian.

Interviewed by the United Press of India, Sir Richard Ackland, leader of the Commonwealth Party, said:

I want Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders to be released and the establishment now of a provisional National Government having the confidence of the Indian people. The Skipton people have given a clear verdict on the Indian issue.

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

The Leningrad Blockade

LENINGRAD is now completely freed from the German blockade. The Russians have captured Tosno, a district centre of the Leningrad region. They have also captured the railway junction of Volosovo, 25 miles west of Gatchina. In an Order of the Day addressed to the troops of the Leningrad front, sailors of the Baltic Fleet and the workers of Leningrad on January 27, General Govorov says:

Troops of the Leningrad front as a result of 12 days' stubborn, tense battles broke through and overcame along the entire front at Leningrad the strongly fortified and deeply staggered long term important defence key points and support points at Leningrad the towns of Krasnoye Selo, Ropsha, Uritsk, Pushkin, Pavlovsk, Miga Ulianovka, Gatchina and others and successfully developing their offensive liberated more than 700 inhabited points and repulsed the enemy from Leningrad along the entire front for a distance of 65 to 100 kilometres.

To mark the victory and in honour of the complete raising of the enemy blockade of Leningrad, the City of Lenin saluted the valiant troops of the Leningrad front with 24 salvoes from 324 guns.

The Italian Front

Nettuno, a town and harbour on the Italian west coast, south of Rome, is in Allied hands, it is officially announced. It is also stated that effective enemy opposition has so far not developed in the area of the Allied bridgehead.

The announcement of the occupation of Nettuno leaves it to be assumed that Allied troops have also occupied the port area which is called Anzio lying just north of Nettuno itself. Latest reports say that Allied landing troops have advanced 4 miles inland and are meeting only very slight opposition.

This advance puts them only 6 miles from the Appian Way—the main coastal road to Rome—which is under shell-fire from the advancing troops and within range of war ships lying off shore. At Nettuno the landing troops are 75 miles as the crow flies from the 8th Army.

Polish Graves Near Smolensk

The special Soviet commission investigating German atrocities in Klin Katyn forest has issued its report with the following conclusions: "Polish prisoners of war were shot by the Germans not only at Katyn but at other places. The object was (1) to wipe out their enemies, (2) to place the blame on the Soviet Union, and (3) to swell the statistics of enemy casualties".

The graves were opened in the presence of the Special Commission and coroners. Over 11,000 corpses were discovered in the graves clothed in Polish military uniforms.

Anglo Irish Relations

General Richard Mulcahy, one of the principal figures in the Anglo Irish struggle, which led to the treaty of 1921, which he accepted, was unanimously elected leader of the Fine Gael Party to replace Mr. Cosgrave.

He made this statement on behalf of his party.

We stand unequivocally for membership of the British Commonwealth. The country should decline to allow fear or differences, to interfere with the determination to take the greatest possible advantage of the British market.

End of Mandate in Syria

The first act under the new Syrian constitution, from which all mandate reservations have been removed, took place recently when the President of the Republic and Members of Parliament took the oath of loyalty to the constitution. Hitherto reservations resulting from the mandate had prevented this ceremony. The oath was taken at a big ceremony attended by high diplomatic representatives of Allied and of Arab Powers.

The European Theatre

It is officially announced that General Dwight Eisenhower has assumed command of the European theatre of operations, United States Army, in addition to his duties as Supreme Commander of the Allied Expeditionary Force.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

THE NINE GEMS OF AKBAR'S COURT

Rao Bahadur G. S. Sardesai's paper on "The Nine Gems of Akbar's Court", prepared for the Akbar centenary celebration, is published in a recent issue of the *Modern Review*. The conception of the nine gems patronized by a monarch is purely Aryan, he says, and receives its first mention after the reign of Vikramaditya of Ujjain as having been

a lover of arts and letters in whose court the poet Kalidas, the mathematician Varaha-Mihira, the grammarian Vararuchi, the physician Dhanwantari, the lexicographer Amarsinha, the astronomer Brahma-Gupta, the architect Shanku, the astrologer Kshapanaka, and the magician Vaitallk are said by popular tradition to have flourished. Tradition hardly cares for historical accuracy and it has now been proved beyond doubt that these great worthies were not all contemporaries but lived and worked during widely different periods in the past; nor does the figure nine signify a literal sense. This figure has a peculiar fascination over the popular mind. The expression "nine gems" therefore conveys what great progress in the various branches of knowledge had been achieved by the Aryan brain during olden days and represents types in the advance of civilization all round.

Similarly the expression "nine gems" as applied to Akbar was equally a creation of popular fancy, started after his death, possibly by Hindu Pandits of Shah Jahan and Darashuka's Court like Jagannathrai or Kavindracharya, who therein commemorated the advancement of learning during Akbar's rule so close to their generation.

When a ruler achieves phenomenal success in his craft, popular imagination soon invests him with a glow of praise and gathers round him a list of conspicuous personalities that had shared his toils. It is obvious therefore that neither the actual names, nor the exact number of these gems or helpmates of Akbar can be accurately set down. During his long reign various workers and officials stuck to him through weal and woe and were afterwards profusely rewarded by him, of whom tradition enumerates the following nine or ten:

1. Bairam Khan, 2. Abul Fazl, 3. Abul Faizi, 4. Raja Mansingh, 5. Raja Todar Mal, 6. Raja Birbal, 7. Mulla Do pyaza, 8. Tan-Sen, 9. Hakim Humam and 10. Badayuni.

A careful student of Akbar's reign can easily add to this list many more names of generals, architects, painters, etc. But these are sufficiently representative of the various activities and interests of the Great Emperor.

Of these Todarmall, Mansingh, Birbal and Tan Sen are four Hindus and the others Muslims. We may be sure, however, that Akbar entertained many more gems of similar character in various spheres of his vast empire, to whom all in fact he owed his greatness.

All these worthy comrades of Akbar's life died before him and awfully saddened his last years. But these nine gems with the central figure of Akbar form a complete picture with varied shades and charming colours. Akbar alone without them will look bald and insipid. Likewise these human gems scattered about without their patron to string them together will appear lifeless.

HINDUISM: A WAY TO RIGHT LIVING

Writing on Hinduism as a way to right living, Dr. Radhakumud Mookerji observes in the course of an article in the *Aryan Path* for January that in its essence and fundamentals, Hinduism

is not a body of doctrine and practices to be followed by a particular community. It lays down the principles of self-culture, the way of life for all seekers after salvation (*Mumukshu*). It views religion as a code of conduct by which its principles are to be realised and applied to life. Supreme Knowledge, the Knowledge of the Atman or the Brahma as the sole Reality, is the fruit of Karma, a life of discipline and Brahmacharya.

Religion, he goes on to say, is a process of self-expansion or self-fulfilment. It means the progressive approach of the Individual towards the Universal by his steady cultivation of the cosmopolitan outlook and of the widest sympathies which must be assimilated as part of his nature.

This widening or purification of the heart can only be achieved by co-operation of both head and heart. The mind must aid in the purification of the heart. It must cease to think in terms of individual objects to which it must not be attached by the senses. The contact of mind with matter contaminates and materialises the mind and tends to destroy its inner essence. A materialised mind manifests itself in materialism. The only escape from this debasement is to free the mind from the clutches of matter by training it to detachment from objects, as explained above. Such detachment can be achieved only by the practice of Yoga and its various regulations, physical, moral and mental.

THE GRIHASTHA ASHRAMA

The forty-ninth annual number of the *Prabuddha Bharata* is enriched by an article from the pen of Dr. M. H. Syed, who discusses the meaning and purpose of the Grihasta Ashrama. He writes:

It was not without reason, that the life of the householder was religiously enjoined on every Aryan in the olden days. He learnt a necessary lesson in life by marrying and having children. He was considered an incomplete man unless he married and had one or two children. Manu says that a man is equal to man plus wife plus child. A man living an individual solitary life cannot possibly realize not only the joys of matrimonial life that rouse and deepen his emotional nature but also that added sense of responsibility that raises his moral level and infuses in him fresh vigour and vitality to fulfil his vocation in life

If regard for others, self denial, self sacrifice, unselfish devotion to a loved one, are considered truly virtuous and laudable aspects of one's moral nature, surely family life is their nursing ground. It affords ample opportunity for every householder to learn and cultivate these all important virtues, without which no one can evolve morally.

A bachelor thinks only of his own welfare and is self-centred and insular,

whereas the same man as soon as he is wedded breaks the spell of isolation and begins to think more of his better half and his child than of his own comforts in life. It is in family life, where he has to deny himself in ever so many ways, that he learns the first lesson of unselfishness

It is said that the Hindus are selfish, they care only for their individual well-being and liberation, and not for the welfare of their fellowmen and the amelioration of their social, political, and moral condition.

Nothing could be farther from the truth than this unauthorized statment Practically all the schools of Indian philosophy believe in the common unity and divinity of the Self They are repeatedly enjoined by all the spiritual teachers to love their neighbours, and every creature (Sarvabhutam), as much as their own self, because they share one life They are mutually interdependent upon each other.

Besides, one of the paths to union with God is Karmayoga, union with God through action.

If an active and energetic man of the world desires to tread the path of spiritual perfection, he is not expected to renounce the world and cease from active life, as is wrongly supposed by some people who do not understand clearly the Hindu view of life.

Without learning to live in the lives of others, one cannot proceed on this path of spiritual realization.

ALUMINUM

The world of to-morrow will be a world of aluminum splendour, ease and efficiency—a world lightened and brightened by this silvery metal, writes Mark Kingsley in the *Magazne Digest*.

By the end of 1943, plants in the United States will be producing aluminum at a rate of *seven* times that of the nation's greatest peace-time year. This means that annually, 2 billion, 100 million pounds of aluminum will be produded. In other words, there will be enough to construct 8,400 twelve-car streamlined trains, or to provide a 60 piece cooking utensil set for every one of America's 34 million homes

But astonishing as is the tale of the scope of aluminum in this war, it is only half the story. For it promises to do more than bring victory to the Allied cause. Aluminum is the most versatile of metals.

From freight cars and speedboats, trains and destroyers, to superchargers which permit our planes to fly higher than those of any other nation, and the almost invisible powder used to combat the dread disease of silicosis, there is almost nothing for which aluminum cannot, in some measure, be used And its present usefulness merely foreshadows the wonder working new aluminum products waiting for us in the post war world

Use of lightweight, high tensile aluminum in naval vessels foreshadows a great new field in post-war economy.

Huge, fast merchant ships of the glamorous metal, capable of speeds undreamed of in merchant fleets and promising remarkable economies in both operation and gross ton freight revenue, are envisioned.

Railroad, freight, tank, and hopper cars may be made from alloy aluminum, thus permitting faster and better freight service.

Aluminum has already invaded the textile field. The ever expanding production of rayon and nylon require more and more aluminum.

MYSINDIA

The Mysindia Annual, which has just been issued, is a magnificent number with many attractive features. It teems with articles on a variety of topics—politics, art, education, industry, and aviation. There are pen and pencil sketches and coloured plates of striking interest well worth framing. We congratulate the publishers on the sumptuous fare afforded in its 64 pages of very interesting matter. The cover design is a symbolic representation of *Kerala Putri* in black and white set in a background of green and mauve.

THE FUTURE OF INDIAN STATES

Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, the Dewan of Baroda, in the course of an article on "Indian States in the Indian Polity" in *The Asiatic Review* has the following to say regarding the future of Indian States:

It is impossible to forecast this at present. Much will depend on how long the war lasts and the forces released by it. One thing is certain—that there will be a drastic reconstruction of society immediately after the war. States cannot escape the effects of these forces and will have to readjust themselves in response to them. In the meantime, they feel they can usefully devote themselves to the immediate measures of reconstruction, the need for which is recognised. In the first place, it is felt that much greater progress should be made than in the past with schemes of co-operation and consolidation of medium States and with the schemes for the joining of "estates" to parent and other states. It is difficult to say how far this process of consolidation should go, but with demand for higher standards of living among the people, present ideas on the subject have to be revised.

Secondly, all States are convinced that they should make a steady effort to offer to their people a much higher standard of living than exists to-day and a much higher standard of social services generally.

A larger proportion of the revenues will have to be devoted to these ends. This will mean a great drive for rural improvement and also that States should play their part in the increased industrialization of India.

Lastly, there is the problem of the re-orientation of the relations of the States with British India.

The States have made it clear, beyond all doubt, that they share with British India the desire that India should attain "Dominion status"—i.e., equality with Britain—without delay, and that they would be prepared to readjust their relations with the new India on terms which would be equitable to all interests concerned. There need be no doubt that these readjustments will be effected in a spirit of give and take and of mutual understanding.

THE INDIAN HOME

The Indian Home Magazine (edited by Mohan V. Raj, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Road, Fort, Bombay) now in its seventh year is a monthly periodical devoted exclusively to the family in India. In the issue before us (December), we have a number of articles on Home Hygiene and kindred topics bearing on parenthood, education and home life. Indian home problems are discussed with sympathy and understanding and the issue is replete with topics of special interest to ladies.

EXILE AS AN INSTITUTION

Writing in *The Political Science Quarterly*, R. G. Caldwell stresses the part that exile has played in the lives of many South American heroes and politicians, like Bolivar; colonies of Latin American exiles have always flourished in great centres like Paris and New York for over a hundred years. Exile had long been a Spanish legal custom, easily transplanted to the new soil of independent Latin America. Exile was imposed both as an executive precaution and as a judicial penalty and was easily applied not only to priests and foreigners, but also to leading citizens. Political exile came to have well-recognised forms in the 19th century. The Brazilian penal code still retains banishment as a penalty for any direct attack on republican institutions. The Venezuelan President is given the right to expel citizens or aliens, the former to return when the reasons for exile have ceased to exist. In Mexico and Central America, the custom has been more persistent and important than elsewhere. Banishment of political malcontents, though not effective as a deterrent, could not be abandoned. A corollary of the institution is the right of asylum in a friendly legation and safe conduct to the port of departure. This is not countenanced by the U. S. A.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

THE ICY HOME OF THE GANGES. By Swami Apurvananda. [Prabuddha Bharata, January 1944.]

NON-OFFICIAL EUROPEANS IN INDIAN LEGISLATURES. By Dr. H. C. Mookerjee. [The Modern Review, January 1944.]

MILTON AND INDIA. By K. Mukherjee. [The New Review, January 1944.]

THE MUSIC OF INDIA. By B. R. James. [The Twentieth Century. December 1944.]

DR. AMBEDKAR AND POST-WAR INDIA. By Economicus. [Indian Sociologist. December 1944.]

THE FUTURE OF INDIA. By Sir Frederick James. [Mysinda Annual.]

THE NEAR EAST AND THE INDUS VALLEY. By P. Joseph. [Journal of the University of Bombay, January 1944.]

REHABILITATION OF THE INDIAN WAR-DISABLED. By M. Vasudeva Moorthy. [The Indian Journal of Social Work, December 1943.]

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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Jan. 1. Petain promises loyalty to Hitler.

—Constitutional reforms for Jaipur announced in Maharaja's Proclamation.

Jan. 2. R. A. F. bombing Berlin.

—Hitler's chancellary destroyed.

Jan 3. Viceroy opens Indian Science Congress at New Delhi.

Jan. 4. Coup d'etat in Bulgaria. Pro-allied leader overthows government.

Jan. 5. At the Science Congress, Mr. Sargent explains his plan of educational reconstruction.

—Mr. Jinnah defines Pakistan as League's condition for settlement.

Jan. 6. *Pravda* rebukes Mr. Willkie for his "Baltic States" plan.

—Russian thrust into Poland.

Jan. 7. Labour deputation meets Mr. Amery.

—Allied landings in Yugoslavia.

Jan. 8. Mr. Suresh Vaidya of the American *Time* and *Life* returns his call up papers on the plea that only a free India could have the right to conscript him.

Jan. 9. Mr. Brelvi addresses Madras Journalists.

Jan. 10. All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference meets in Madras, Mr. S. A. Brelvi presiding.

Jan. 11. A German News Agency reports execution of Count Ciano.

Jan. 12. Russians capture Sarny.

—Fighting in Arakan.

Jan. 13. Death of R. S. Pandit at Lucknow.

Jan. 14. Jap plane over Vizagapatam.

—Mr. Churchill is recuperating in Morocco.

Jan. 15. Soviet landing in Kerch.

—Mr. Churchill confers with Gen. de Gaulle.

Jan. 16. H. H. Nawab of Bhopal elected Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes.

Jan. 17. Russia rejects Polish offer.

Jan. 18. U. S. Government offers mediation between Russia and Poland.

—Mr. Churchill back in London.

Jan. 19. Sir Jogendra Singh, Education Member, outlines 450 crore scheme of education.

Jan. 20. Sir Firoz Khan Noon nominated to War Cabinet.

Jan. 21. Rau Committee for codification of Hindu Law revived.

—Leningrad offensive: Nazis in retreat.

Jan. 22. Rt. Hon. R. G. Casey assumes office as Governor of Bengal.

Jan. 23. Allied landings south of Rome.

—India demonstration in Birmingham.

Jan. 24. Congress members of Legislatures meeting in Madras urge formation of All-India Legislators' Convention to resolve the deadlock.

Jan. 25. Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy's statement on rationing in Calcutta.

—Jap counter-offensive in Burma.

Jan. 26. Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, on arrival at Lahore, served with a notice not to talk to press or address meetings.

—Birmingham meeting demands exit of Amery.

Jan. 27. Replying to questions in the Commons, Mr. Amery says no reliable figures are available *re.* deaths from starvation.

Jan. 28. Leningrad freed from blockade.

—Heavy battle south of Rome.

Jan. 29. Pre censorship imposed on *Hindustan Times* and *National Call.*

—Berlin raided.

Jan. 30. Russians capture Chudovo.

—Hitler broadcasts his hopes of British fight against "Bolshevik Colossus."

Jan. 31. Sir Chimanlal Setalvad urges Government to allow leaders to review the situation.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

The Hyderabad Municipal and Town Committee's Regulation provided for the reconstitution or establishment in the districts, ilaqas and jagirs of municipal and town committees and enlargement of their powers and function. It marks an important step in the direction of development of local Government institutions in H. E. H. the Nizam's Dominions under the scheme of constitutional reforms.

Under the Regulation, Government has to notify every town with a population of 15,000 or more to be a municipality and every other town with a population of 5,000 or more to be a small town. It may, however, constitute under special circumstances a municipality or a town committee for areas with lesser population. Government has also the power to exclude or include areas from or in municipalities and town committees. Pending the constitution of a municipality or town committee, the Regulation authorizes the establishment of interim bodies for carrying on the duties of local Government institutions.

LATE RAJA KAJA PERSHAD

The news of the death in Bombay of Raja Kaja Pershad Bahadur, eldest son and successor of the late Maharaja Sir Kishen Pershad Bahadur, came as a sudden shock to the people of Hyderabad. Only a fortnight before this tragic event, the Nizam had issued a *firman* according formal sanction to the Raja Saheb's succession to his father's *jagirs*. The Raja Saheb was the only son of the late Maharaja Bahadur by his Hindu wife. It may be mentioned that the family is one of the oldest Hindu noble families of Hyderabad and the only one in which the head held the hereditary title of "Peshkaf". The family, which traces its descent from the celebrated Todar Mal, has supplied the State with Chief Ministers, the most eminent of them being Raja Chandulal, a historical figure. With the death of Raja Kaja Pershad at the early age of 30 years, direct succession to the *jagir* has come to an end.

Mysore

MEDICINE INSTITUTE IN MYSORE

"No one can deny that many indigenous drugs are potent and valuable, but the days of blind belief in the authority of the written word are gone and any system of medicine must stand scrutiny by the searching eye of accurate observation and experiment," observed His Highness Sri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, Maharaja of Mysore, laying the foundation stone of Sir Jayachamarajendra Institute of Indian Medicine at Bangalore on December 11.

His Highness was glad that the proposed institution was not merely to train pupils in the use and preparation of the Ayurvedic and Unani medicines but it would also be a centre for organised research on modern scientific lines into the actions and uses of indigenous drugs. He hoped that an earnest attempt would be made in this institution to find out simple and inexpensive substitutes within the reach of the poorest class of patients for the costly allopathic medicines now being imported. His Highness advised that the preparation of indigenous medicines should be standardised.

RELEASE OF DETENUS

In pursuance of the decision of the Government, nineteen detenus, including Mr. T. Subramanian, President, and Mr. K. T. Bashyam and Mr. N. C. Thimma Reddi, members of the Working Committee of the State Congress, were released from the Bangalore Central Jail. There are no more detenus and political prisoners in the State convicted under the Defence of India Rules.

FREE KITCHENS

The Mysore Government have passed orders directing Deputy Commissioners in each district to open free kitchens wherever necessary, including rural areas, where cooked food will be distributed free to a specified number of really deserving people.

Recently, H. H. the Maharaja ordered the opening of a number of free kitchens in Mysore city.

Baroda

BARODA CONFERENCE

A vigorous plea for the introduction of the mother tongue as the medium of education in schools and colleges and for the establishment of an independent university in Gujerat at an early date was made by Lady Vidyagauri Nilkantha, presiding over the 15th session of the Gujerat Sahitya Parishad (Literary Conference) at Baroda on December 27.

In the unavoidable absence of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar, the inaugural address, on his behalf, was read by Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, the Dewan.

Lady Nilkantha declared that the study of English as a compulsory subject, even at the risk of having more than two languages in the courses of studies, was very necessary in order to maintain contact with the outside world.

A resolution urging that immediate steps be taken to examine the scheme of a Gujerat University in all its details was passed at the Conference. The resolution was moved by Diwan Bahadur K. M. Jhaveri and seconded by Mr. Justice Divatia. Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, the Dewan, said at the conclusion of the session, that the Baroda Government was keen on promoting all literary and cultural activities.

Bharatpur

POST-WAR PLAN FOR BHARATPUR

A provisional Post-war Development Plan for Bharatpur State has been announced by a Government Order. Four committees have been appointed in charge of Public Works, Trade and Commerce, Agriculture and Social Service respectively. Each committee consists of no less than 16 members drawn from various walks of public life of the State, and is expected to meet at least once a month. These committees will have to investigate each item and work out details and prepare necessary plans and personnel for various works of development.

Travancore

SIR C. P. ON CENTRAL CONTROL

"Food" loomed large in the deliberations of the Travancore Legislature both in the Sri Mulam Assembly, which adjourned *sine die* on January 11, and the Sri Chitra State Council, which met on the 12th, the Dewan-President Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, presiding.

The President pointed out how as against Travancore's annual requirement of 600,000 tons of rice the quantity allotted by the Government of India and the local stocks aggregated to only one-half, and the remaining half represented the annual deficit.

The Dewan proceeded "We could not maintain ourselves unless there was active support and encouragement by the Government of India, and that support, if it was to be implemented, must involve firstly control to be exercised by the Government of India over all surplus provinces and reciprocal co operation on the part of deficit areas to tighten their belts and co-operate with the Central authorities."

Despite threatening letters received by him from several parts of the country in respect of his advocacy of a central and unified control, he had insisted that while for political purposes he had no immediate quarrel with those demanding two or more sovereignties in India there must be a single central control and authority whose orders would be obeyed by various units at least in economic and trade matters.

COIR INDUSTRY

The Supply Department of the Government of India and the Governments of Travancore and Cochin have, in mutual consultation, formulated a scheme which, while ensuring supplies for coir and coir products at reasonable prices to the Supply Department for war purposes, will regulate production and supply of coir and coir articles in the Travancore and Cochin States, and help the coir industry out of the depression caused by the loss of its export markets, says a press note.

Orders for coir products, which may probably amount in value to Rs. 44 lakhs, will be available with the Supply Department up to the end of the year 1944.

Jaipur

JAIPUR REFORMS

Constitutional reforms for the Jaipur State were announced in a Proclamation made by H. H. the Maharaja, on January 1.

A Legislative Council is established consisting of 51 members with an elected majority and with the Prime Minister as President. Thirty-seven of these members are to be elected and the remaining fourteen will consist of Ministers and nominated members, both official and non-official. Of the elected members, 25 will be returned by territorial constituencies and in recognition of their special position in the State, Sardars will be entitled to elect nine members. Three members will be returned by special constituencies representing respectively trade and industry, women and labour.

A Representative Assembly is also to be established consisting of 125 members, of whom 89 will be elected by territorial constituencies, 25 by the Sardars and two each by the special constituencies of trade and industry, women and labour, and the remaining five seats to be filled by nomination.

On the question of Muslim representation, the proclamation says: "Happily, communal discord has not disfigured the history of Jaipur. Politically, the interests of the Muslims and the Hindus are identical; and in spite of the Muslim demand for separate electorates, the outcome of new-born political consciousness, it is my firm conviction that, given the mutual confidence which has been a marked characteristic of my people throughout the years, the Muslims do not stand in need of any special statutory protection. I have, therefore, decided that my Muslim subjects should seek election to the Legislature on the basis of joint electoratas. Nevertheless, to ensure the return of an adequate number of Muslims, I consider that four out of 25 general seats in the Legislative Council and 11 out of 89 general seats in the Representative Assembly should be reserved for the Muslim community. I trust that my Muslim subjects will recognise the fairness of this decision."

Pudukottah

THE RAJA'S INVESTITURE

Pudukottah was *en fete* on January 17 on the occasion of the investiture with full ruling powers on H. H. Shri Brihadamba Dasa Raja Rajagopala Tondaiman Bahadur, Raja of Pudukottah, ninth in succession from Ragunatha Tondaiman, the founder of the ruling house.

His Highness succeeded to the Musnad on the death of H. H. Shri Martanda Bavna Tondaiman on May 28, 1928, and was proclaimed Raja on November 19, 1928.

In view of His Highness' minority, the Administration was conducted till March, 1929, by his brother, Rajakumar Vijaya Raghunatha Dorairaja, as Regent, assisted by a Dewan, Rao Bhadur O. K. Kunhunni Menon (October 25 to December 15, 1926) and for a short while, during leave by Mr. G. Ganapati Sastriar.

From 1929, a Council of Administration, composed of a President, the Dewan and the Chief Judge as ex-officio member, was constituted.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, Ltd.

(Established—December, 1911)

HEAD OFFICE—Esplanade Road, Fort, BOMBAY.
205 Branches and Pay-Offices throughout India.

Authorised Capital	Rs. 3,50,00,000
Subscribed Capital*	Rs. 3,36,26,400
Paid-Up Capital	Rs. 1,68,13,200
Reserve and Other Funds	Rs. 1,49,67,000
Deposits as at (30-6-1943)	Rs. 72,27,68,000

DIRECTORS.

Sir Homi Mody, K.B.E., Chairman, Ardeshir B. Dubash, Esquire, Haridas Madhavdas, Esquire, Dinshaw D. Romer, Esquire, Vithaldas Kanji, Esquire, Noormahomed M. Chinoy, Esquire, Bapuji Dadabhoy Lam, Esquire, Dharamsey Mulraj Khatau, Esquire, Sir Ardeshir Dalal, KT. H. F. Commissariat, Esquire.

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Mrs. SAROJINI'S STATEMENT

At a press conference in Delhi on January 25, lasting for nearly 2 hours, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, the only member of the Congress Working Committee, who is outside prison, and who, in spite of ill-health, has had an opportunity to study the developments in India, made an authoritative statement re-affirming the Congress position.

She emphatically repudiated the suggestion that the outbreak of violence in India was in accordance with Congress plans and that the Congress and Mahatma Gandhi were pro-Japanese.

If anybody has the audacity to continue saying it, it will be scurrilous, it will be a lie. I can tell you authoritatively, as the only member of the Working Committee outside jail, that far from being pro-Japanese, we have been consistently against any form of foreign aggression, no matter what label it may bear. We would be anti-anybody that tried to invade us. There are no two opinions among us on this.

LIBERAL FEDERATION'S PLEA

A resolution disapproving of the policy of the Government of India in continuing to detain in prison without trial well known and popular leaders and in refusing to allow any approach to be made to Mahatma Gandhi and other Congress leaders in incarceration was passed by the National Liberal Federation of India at its open session at Bombay on December 30.

The resolution at the same time asked the Congress to treat the August (1942) resolution as a dead letter. It appealed for the co-operation of all leaders of parties to co-operate in forming national composite Governments at the Centre and in the Provinces.

Mr. SASTRI'S ADDRESS TO JOURNALISTS

The Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri, addressing the members of the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference, following a tea party which he gave them at Gemini Studio, Madras, appealed to them to consider it their foremost duty to give no rest to the Government until they released our biggest men, Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, in order that, when the whole world met at the Peace Conference, the voice of India might be raised in defence of the future not only of India but of the whole world.

EDUCATIONAL

ALL-INDIA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Education is an essential element in the true conception of democracy as a spiritual force, as a habit of life and not merely as the particular method of political machinery, said Sir Maurice Gwyer in his presidential address at the 19th annual session of the All-India Educational Conference at Jaipur on December 27.

Indicating the main principles on which Mr. Sargent's scheme is based, Sir Maurice said "The fundamental conception is that it is the obligation of Government to provide all citizens without exception with a minimum preparation for citizenship in the form of free and compulsory education up to the age of 14 years."

He referred to the importance of free and compulsory education at the secondary stage, the importance of the university education, the supply of properly trained teachers, the impracticability of the scheme being introduced without a preliminary period of some five years and the necessity of a Central Education Department. One of the first tasks for a self-governing India would be the creation of a wholly new administrative machinery.

Sir Maurice added that a national system of education would be launched with far greater prospects of success if there was at the same time an up-rising of the national conscience and a determination to destroy once for all evil things.

Dr. R. SHAMA SASTRY

We regret the sudden death of Artha Sastra Visharada Vidyalankara Panditharaja Sahitya Vidwan Dr. R. Shama Sastry, at the age of 76, at his residence in Chamundipuram, after a brief illness. The late Dr. Shama Sastry was a great Sanskrit scholar of international reputation and was part time Professor of History in the Mysore University and Curator of the Oriental Library. He retired as the Director of Archaeology in Mysore and he was for sometime post-graduate lecturer in the Calcutta University.

"C. R. DEFAMATION CASE"

At the Madras High Court on January 19, Mr. Justice Kuppuswami Iyer quashed the conviction of Mr. P. Balasubramania Mudaliar, Editor of the *Sunday Observer*, a local English weekly, and Mr. Baquir Hussain, printer and publisher of the paper, in what is known as the "C. R. Defamation Case."

On a suit filed by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari ex-Premier, for alleged defamation in respect of an article entitled "Gandhi—the fountain source of Evil", published in the paper on October 4, 1942, the Chief Presidency Magistrate had convicted the editor and the printer and publisher of the paper with the offence of having made defamatory statements against the complainant and had sentenced them to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 500 respectively. Against this conviction, the present appeal was preferred in the High Court.

Setting aside the conviction, Mr. Justice Kuppuswami Iyer observed:

Though the defamatory imputations in question made against the complainant were baseless and incorrect, still as they were made by the first accused (Mr. Balasubramania Mudaliar, editor) only as a matter of opinion in good faith and for public good after taking due care and caution, the appellants are protected by exception (9) to Section 499, I. P. C. I, therefore, find the accused not guilty and set aside the conviction and sentence.

CODIFICATION OF HINDU LAW

The Joint Committee on the Hindu Intestate Succession Bill recommended revival of the Hindu Law Committee with a view to the codification of all elements in the Hindu Law not embraced by the Hindu Intestate Succession and Marriage Bills. A resolution embodying a similar recommendation was adopted by the Council of State on August 5, 1943. The Central Government have accepted this recommendation and have decided to revive the Hindu Law Committee with the following personnel:

Chairman: The Hon. Mr. Justice B. N. Rau, Kt., C.I.E., Judge, Calcutta High Court.

Members: (1) Dr. Dwarka Nath Mitter, (2) Mr. J. R. Gharpure, and (3) Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E.

ANTI-FIRE PROPAGANDA

The insurance profession (which is really a full-size industry) has reason to thank the Government, observes the London correspondent of *Capital*. While the anti-fire propaganda put out by the offices themselves has not yielded the results expected, the definite policy of the Supply Departments in adopting increasingly strict measures against fire in the factories has borne good fruit. The official statement that the implementation of the heightened precautions had reduced fire outbreaks in these factories by 40 per cent. is at once a justification of the offices' decision to launch their own campaign, since it emphasises the preventability of most fire loss, and a criticism of the actual publicity programme, which has yet to yield substantial benefits.

In October, 1943, the better record of 1943 as compared with 1942 was continued, the estimated loss being £512,000, as against £675,000 in October, 1942, and £650,000 in September, 1943. The comparison of the ten-monthly 1943 total of about £7¼ millions with the figure of over £10¾ millions in the corresponding period of 1942 owes mainly to the operation of officially-inspired schemes of precaution.

PREMIUM ON WAR RISKS

That the question of lowering the premium on war risks insurance of goods and factories should depend entirely on the war developments during the next quarter was the general opinion of the members of the War Insurance Advisory Committee who met in Bombay recently under the presidentship of the Commerce Member. A vigorous plea was made by some of the members for lowering the premium.

During the discussion, it was pointed out that the premium on war risks insurance of goods had been already brought down to As. 2 per Rs. 100 for the quarter beginning from the October 1 and the question of the rate being lowered down still further should depend on the war developments during the next quarter. As regards the rate of premium on the war risks insurance of factories, it was thought that the position could be reviewed at the beginning of the year since the current period of insurance has still about six months to run.

CIPLA

Addressing the Eighth Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders of "Cipla" (The Chemical, Industrial and Pharmaceutical Laboratories, Ltd.), held at Bombay on December 28, Dr. Hamied, the Chairman and Technical Director of the Company, said:

The present industrial boom in India should not be regarded as an index of post-war development India will have to face a serious competition from Allied and non-Allied countries Not being masters of our own country, we are not in a position to put tariff walls against imports and dumping from other countries in order to build our own industries as has been done by other countries who have thus become leaders of industries. Unless Indian industries are well planned and well managed so as to avoid all internal competition, we cannot face foreign competition I would, therefore, suggest to our industrialists and business magnates to meet together and work out a plan for industrial development whereby duplication of industries is avoided and factories are established on regional basis for all the important commodities for which raw materials are available in India. There is no scarcity of technical experts in our country. With the experience I have of educated labour in India, I can claim that the technicians of our country are second to none in the world Given genuine support and impetus by the Government, Indian industries can have a bright and sure future.

The Cipla products are becoming popular and are available in the market all over the country.

INDIA'S STERLING HOLDINGS

The *News Chronicle* has published its correspondent, Stuart Emeny's interview with Mr. G. D. Birla, in which he stressed the need for post-war Indian industrialisation. "We will welcome British help and capital if they are forthcoming; otherwise we can get them elsewhere", he said. "India must industrialise with or without Britain." British post-war planning for British prosperity was based on keeping India unindustrialised. The hope of Indian industrialists to use Indian sterling balances for post-war reconstruction of Indian economy was likely to be futile, since plans were being made to repudiate or otherwise write off the British sterling debt to India. One plan almost certain of execution was to fund sterling balances to finance post-war British exports to India, thus holding India in economic bondage.

WOMEN AND PROHIBITION

Miss Mummery of the London Mission *writes from Salem:*—

Many women of Salem are deeply distressed to hear that toddy shops are to be opened again. If they are allowed within the municipal limits, the state of the town will be deplorable. We have, therefore, collected nearly a thousand signatures of women to the above protest.

We hope that the public spirit of the people of the areas specially concerned and of people in other areas, will be strong enough to influence the Government and prevent this step of abolishing a reform: and that, too, before there has been opportunity to put forth adequate effort to carry out the prohibition order faithfully.

I have personal experience of the amelioration in the lot of many women in Salem since the Act became law. After all, in spite of illicit distilling, there are a majority of "law-abiders" in the land.

DR. ANIMA CHOWDHURY, M.D. & H.S.

Lady Doctor Mrs. Anima Chowdhury, M D. & H S., in "Chowdhury Villa" of Kurigram (North Bengal), having undergone considerable experience in Homœopathic science, has this year, secured the first class first diploma of D.Sc. in Homœopathy from the Chicago Medical College, of Hommopathy which is incorporated with the Post-Graduate College of Hahnemannian University of America. She is the first lady of Bengal to receive the highest diploma and become the first Doctor of Honour. She has been curing many hopeless incurable chronic female and children patients with free distribution of medicines for a long years past.

WOMEN JURORS

The Bombay High Court has made history by amending the Crown side rules so as to enable women to serve as jurors in the Criminal Sessions. From next Easter for the first time in India women will function as jurors.

JOURNALISTS IN CONFERENCE

The formation and the strengthening of journalistic organisations throughout the country on the lines of the British Institute of Journalists and the National Union of Journalists was advocated by Mr. K. P. Viswanatha Iyer, Assistant Editor of the *Hindu*, in his presidential address at the Tamil Nadu Journalists' Federation Conference held at Madras.

Mr. Viswanatha Iyer, at the outset, said that revolutionary changes had occurred in the position of the Press since he entered the profession in 1910. In relation to society, it was not merely the fourth estate, its highest role then; it had now become one of its essential appendages as important as the railway and the telephone; it rendered mass production and the substance of immense populations possible by widening markets. "Paralyse it", he said, "and not all your D. I. Rules will serve to prevent the growth of public alarm and despondency."

MR. BRELVI'S TRIBUTE TO S. INDIANS

Mr. Syed Brelvi, Editor, *Bombay Chronicle*, speaking at Madras, paid a glowing tribute to the prominent contribution of South Indian journalists to the growth of the Indian Press. The South Indian took to the journalistic profession like a duck to water; and as one who had been in close contact with journalists all over the country, without hesitation he could say that the South Indian journalist did his job very efficiently and in a manner which reflected the glory of the profession.

You find that wherever there is a newspaper in India there is inevitably a South Indian journalist, from Lahore to Karachi, from Delhi to Lucknow, from Bombay to Nagpur and even in Calcutta, where non-Bengalis are not very much welcomed!

PRESS ADVISORY SYSTEM

The All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference has passed a resolution noting with regret that the consultative machinery devised to secure the cordial co-operation of the Press with Government has not been "uniformly helpful in all provinces" and that complaints still come in from several provinces

that the Press Advisory Committees are oftentimes not consulted at all and where their advice is sought, it is sometimes ignored without sufficient justification.

THE LATE MR. V. R. SHINDE

We regret to record the death, which occurred in Poona, of Mr. V. R. Shinde, a leading social worker in the Deccan, at the age of 68. After graduating from Bombay University, the late Mr. Shinde joined the Manchester College. He was one of the founders of the Depressed Class Mission Society and had been actively associated with the movement for the eradication of untouchability ever since 1906. He was also a leader of the Brahmo Samaj in the Deccan.

Mr. Shinde's name will be for ever associated with the uplift of the untouchable classes for the amelioration of whose condition he laboured incessantly for the last 40 years.

THE LATE SRI MOWNANANDA SWAMIGAL

His Holiness Matathipathi Rajarajeswari Peetathipathi Sri Mownananda Saraswathi Swamigal of Dattatreya Mutt, Courtallam, breathed his last on December 28, at the age of 84.

Dewan Bahadur V. N. Viswanatha Rao, District Collector, read the Will of the Swamigal in the presence of a large crowd. The Will provides that a Committee of six persons, with the Collector as President, should manage the properties of His Holiness and the Mutt. The Committee is empowered to select his successor from Andhradesa, who should act according to the wishes of the Committee.

SIR S. S. BHATNAGAR

The honour done to Sir S. S. Bhatnagar by the Society of Chemical Industry in electing him as its Vice-President is unique. At the India House, the Press Officer pointed out that Sir S. S. Bhatnagar takes the place of Sir Robert Robinson as Vice-President.

On behalf of the Society, Mr. William Cullen has written to Sir S. S. Bhatnagar: "You are the first Indian who has ever held office in our Society. I think you know already that you were the first Honorary Member for India in our Society which is making a serious attempt, together with others, to bring the chemical fraternity within the Empire into closer relationship with one another."

ALL-INDIA MEDICAL CONFERENCE

Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai, inaugurating the 20th All-India Medical Conference at Ahmedabad, on December 28, declared:

The State has done practically nothing for our health building services and in the absence of a well-developed industrialisation of the country, the average Indian is one of the poorest in the world. Whether we want or not, both in the scheme of preventive relief that we want to plan for the future, and in our day to day treatment of disease, this central fact of our poverty must stare us in the face.

Rai Saheb Dr. S. N. Kaul, who presided over the Conference, said.

The food problem does not look to have been solved though it is more than six months when the death roll began to pile up, and both with the starvation and the cold season amongst us, the conditions are sure to deteriorate further. Epidemics of cholera, malaria, dysentery and other infectious diseases have already made their appearance from Chittagong in the far east of the country to Karachi in the far west. The present situation in Bengal should be taken as a warning for immediate handling of the food problem in other provinces, lest it should be a prelude to a greater tragedy all over the country.

DR. KRISHNAN ON MEDICAL EDUCATION

In his presidential address to the Section of Medical and Veterinary Sciences of the Indian Science Congress, Dr. K. V. Krishnan dealt with the subject of medical education in India and made suggestions for improvement in certain directions. On the standard of medical education reached in any country, he said, largely depended the soundness of the medical men, the efficiency of the medical service provided by Government and its usefulness to the community.

In India, said Dr. Krishnan, they had a dual standard of medical education, medical schools turning out licentiates who are men of a lower standard and medical colleges producing university graduates who are men of a higher standard. With the exception of India and Russia, there was no other country in the world which retained this dual standard.

SIND MEDICAL COLLEGE

Sind will have its own medical college from the academic year. This decision was taken by Government recently and orders have been passed to extend the medical school buildings at Hyderabad to house the new college.

PHYSICAL WELFARE OF CHILDREN

The irreducible minimum for the physical welfare of children, is, according to the report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Board of Education, England:—

1. That every child shall periodically come under direct medical and dental supervision, and, if found defective, shall be "followed up";

2. That every child found malnourished, shall, somehow or other, be nourished, and every child found verminous shall, somehow or other, be cleansed;

3. That for every sick, diseased, or defective child skilled medical treatment shall be made available,

4. That every child shall be educated in a well ventilated school room or classroom, or in some form of open air school-room or class room,

5. That every child shall have daily organised physical exercise of appropriate character;

6. That no child of school-age shall be employed for profit, except under approved conditions,

7. That the school environment and the means of education shall be such as can in no case exert unfavourable or injurious influence upon the health, growth and development of the child.

HEALTH PLANNING COMMITTEE

The appointment of a Central Medical and Health Planning Committee with Provincial Committees to consider questions of prevention of disease, promotion of health, medical education and relief was urged by the Twentieth All-India Medical Conference, which concluded at Ahmedabad, on January 1. The Conference also urged the immediate introduction throughout the country of rationing of all foodstuffs, including vegetables and milk, and recommended Government to make the country self-sufficient in the matter of food.

ALL-INDIA NUTRITION BOARD

Under the auspices of the All-India Nutrition Board, the executive committee have planned the production and publication of a series of scientific as well as popular material bearing on the different problems of nutrition and food in India. This problem has already come into the forefront.

INDIA'S STERLING ASSETS

Speaking on 'India as a creditor country', at the Rotary Club Dinner held at Madras on January 4, at Connemara Hotel, Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetti urged that Britain must repay the stering debt she owed to India by sending machinery and plant for India's industrial development.

The lecturer explained how the sterling credits had accrued during the war and how it had led to inflation within India.

He emphasised that the present credit position of India was not an index of her prosperity or profit-making capacity but was solely due to the great sacrifices she had made in contributing materials to the Allies for the prosecution of the war. The question they had to consider was, how England was going to repay the money, which now amounted to Rs. 853 crores. If England was going to dump her manufactures in India, what was to happen to goods produced in India? India's industrial and agricultural production must be improved if the present low standard of living of her people were to be improved. If England would repay the debt in the form of plant and machinery necessary for India's industrial progress, then the sacrifices India had made during the war might prove beneficial to her. Whether the creditor position of India would be a blessing or otherwise would be determined by the trade relationship that would be established between the two countries after the war.

GEORGE VI COINS

There is a misapprehension among the public, says a Madras Press Note, that nickel four-anna pieces with corrugated edges and quaternary George VI half rupees and quarter rupees of the Mintage of 1940 with plain milling, *i.e.*, without the security edge and all silver quarter rupees have ceased to be legal tender. This is not the case. All genuine quarter rupees are legal tender and should be accepted freely by the public. The quaternary half rupees (1940 issue and onwards) also continue to be legal tender, whether they have plain milling or security edges. Only Geoge VI silver half rupees which are of eleven-twelfths standard fineness (*i.e.*, those issued before 1940) have ceased to be legal tender.

STATE MANAGEMENT OF M. & S. M. & S. I. R.

The Railway Standing Finance Committee held a two-day meeting on 15th and 16th December, under the Chairmanship of Mr. Zahid Husain, Financial Commissioner of Railways.

The Committee approved of the advance allotments for general purposes stores, which have been found necessary primarily as a result of the scheme of rationalisation introduced by the Supply Department, and the manufacture of bolts, nuts and rivets undertaken by the G. I. P. Railway in its own workshops.

The Committee were also informed of, and approved, the course of negotiations for the premature termination of the M. & S. M. and S. I. Railway's contracts.

It was explained to the Committee that under the terms of the contracts with the M. & S. M. and S. I. Railways Companies, the Government of India have the option to terminate the contracts and take over the lines under State management on the 1st January, 1946, or on the 1st January of any succeeding fifth year, by giving the Companies 12 months' prior notice in England. On the contracts being so determined, Government will be required to repay to the M. & S. M. Railway Company their Share Capital amounting to £5 million, and to the S. I. Railway Company the Share Capital amounting to £1 million, and also to take over the outstanding 4 per cent. debentures amounting to £2,318,248.

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAYMEN

Presiding over the annual meeting of the B. B. and C. I. Railway Employees' Union at the Bhandari Hall, Dadar, Bombay, Mr. Jamnadas Mehta said, that in the post-war reconstruction plan of the Railway Board, dearness allowance for workers should not be reduced. He pleaded for the formation of an inquiry committee to deal in cases, where employees were discharged without proper reasons. He wanted that the railway should throw open its provident fund to workers also.

Mr. G. C. Laughton, General Manager, B. B. and C. I. Railway, called upon the workers to join the Employees' Union in large numbers and make it a powerful organisation.

THE FASCINATION OF INDIAN ART

It is the task of the art historian to examine the works of art for their merit, their historical development, their value, their perfection, said Dr. C. L. Fabri, in a broadcast from Bombay. Here again India has a great deal more to do than some of her more fortunate sister-nations. The fact is that although the ancient Indians left us a few books dealing with the arts, the so-called *Silpa-Sastras*, yet in the whole literature of ancient India, there is not a single book on art history. This is a very sad fact. We do not know the name of any great artist at all, though one or two sculptures seem to bear the name of the stone-carver. Even where it seems that we have got hold of the name of a sculptor, all that we know about him is his name. There is not a single date, not a single word of information about him, his times, his development in any book. How much more lucky are the ancient Greeks, the Romans, the Italians of the Renaissance period! Here we have contemporary accounts of all the great masters, their lives, their chief works, often with wonderful detail. All that has to be found out still in India. Art history in India is in its very infancy. An enormous amount of work in this field remains to be done; and it is again the future generation of young Indians who will have to do it.

TRIBUTE TO ROSHANARA BEGUM

At the conclusion of Miss Roshanara Begum's music recital at the Music Academy, Madras, Sangeetha Kalanidhi Harikesanallur Muthiah Bhagavathar expressed the appreciation of those present in a felicitous speech. He referred to the perfect technique, sweet voice and the high scientific skill of Miss Roshanara Begum and declared that her performance was a pre-eminent example of music that transcended all barriers of language, for most of the listeners were ignorant of Urdu or Sanskrit in which she sang, and yet they had all derived indescribable pleasure from the ceaseless flow of melody. The artiste laid little or no stress on the language of her music. He called her the "Skylark of Hindustan".

INDIA'S PLACE ON THE CRICKET MAP

Will India at the end of the long war, be in a position to challenge the England-Australia supremacy in international cricket? This question was put by the Associated Press cricket correspondent to two Indian veteran cricketers of eminence.

The answer of both Colonel C. K. Nayudu and Prince Duleepsinhji was in the negative, and they gave their reasons why.

Prince Duleepsinhji said: "We have batsmen in plenty and very good ones too, who could hold their own amidst England's and Australia's best, but what we lack sorely is class bowlers and you cannot win matches in international cricket with batsmen only however good. At present, India has not got a really good pair of opening bowlers—for example, a pair like Amar Singh and Nissar, who in their time, were the best opening bowlers in the world."

"The only good bowlers in India at present are slow, leg-break and googly bowlers," added "Duleep," who also pointed out that there is lot of room for improvement in fielding. "Until we show a great deal of improvement in these two departments, we will never produce a real Test team to challenge the might of England and Australia," he concluded.

Colonel C. K. Nayudu, in answering the question, said: "We must build up a cricket side for international cricket and I see no earnest effort made in India to really build up such a complete team."

Then "C. K." dwelt on the poverty of many good Indian cricketers who can neither afford the luxury of first class cricket nor find the time for it. And thus many a promising cricketer was lost to the country. "I wish there was some all-India organisation whose function would be to find 'ways and means' to keep such promising cricketers 'free from want' and then provide them with opportunities for cricket. Unless we take cricket seriously and 'really build up' from right now, the potential all-India XI, we cannot hope to challenge the supremacy of England and Australia at cricket."

MANUFACTURE OF CARS IN INDIA

It is learnt that the manufacture of motor cars and trucks in India may be a possibility in the near future.

It is understood that Birla Brothers, who have already acquired the assembling plant and other machinery, are going to establish a motor car plant as soon as circumstances permit. An application has already been submitted to the Government of India for the increase of the capital of the Hindustan Motors, Ltd. Expert staff is being recruited from England and the United States.

The Company intend manufacturing medium size motor cars and light trucks which are expected to meet the growing requirements of the country.

TYRE RATIONING ORDER

The tyre rationing order, 1944, published in the *Gazette of India* prescribes conditions under which new or used tyres and tubes may be acquired. The order, among other things, lays down that any person wishing to dispose of an unserviceable tyre or tube shall deliver it or despatch it by goods train "freight to pay" to the nearest Government scrap rubber depot, which shall pay for it at such rates as may be fixed by the Central Government in this behalf. No person other than a recognised reclaim manufacturer shall have in his possession any unserviceable tyre or tube for more than 10 days after it became unserviceable, nor is he to dispose of it except in accordance with the provisions of the order, or destroy it except with the Rubber Controller's permission.

MOTOR TRANSPORT CONTROL ORDER

An order called the Civil Motor Transport Vehicles Control Order issued last month prohibits the sale or acquisition of certain specified motor vehicles except under orders of the Provincial Motor Transport Controller. The order applies to Chevrolet and Ford cars of certain specifications which have been or may hereafter be released for civil use under orders of the Central Government, including all vehicles to which the Lease Lend Vehicles Control Order 1943 applied immediately before the commencement of this order.

PLAN TO CRUSH AXIS AVIATION INDUSTRY

The authoritative air magazine *American Aviation* reported that Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt decided at Quebec and Cairo to oust all trace of the aviation industry from the Axis countries after the war. The ban would apply to national air lines and civilian flying. It was added that the necessary air service for these countries would be established by the Allies.

"It is known definitely" the magazine said, "that there will be no formal United Nations Aviation policy conference until after the war or until other post-war problems are ready for formal consideration. President Roosevelt is understood to favour a wide latitude and freedom of transit for planes of the United Nations, especially in the use of air ports built for war purposes. He is stated to be opposed to monopoly for the United States international air transport, feeling that the field is too large for one company to handle alone.

TATA AIR LINES

Mr. S. K Kooka, Traffic Superintendent, Tata Air Lines, Bombay, who went on a visit to Ceylon told *The Times of Ceylon* that from 1944 quicker and improved facilities would be provided for civilian air traffic between Ceylon and India.

The single-engined planes operating certain of the Bombay-Colombo, Colombo-Bombay Service would be withdrawn and this sector oparated by larger and new twin-engined aircraft equipped with wireless, which had been released to his company by Government. This, he stated, would enable civilian passengers to secure easier accommodation.

Mr. Kooka added that a sixth weekly service would also be introduced shortly.

CIVIL AVIATION IN INDIA

India's first claim to the development of civil aviation is obvious, India being a country of vast distances, an unequalled Empire potential for industrial, agricultural and market development, writes Mr. A. James Payne, in *Great Britain and the East*. By air transport every principal town in India can be linked by a daily service.

INDIAN ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

Rao Sahib Dr. B. V. Narayanaswami Nayudu (Principal and Professor of Economics, Pachaiyappa's College, Madras), presiding over the 26th session of the Indian Economic Conference, which met at Madras on December 30, observed:

We must see that peace conditions do not wipe out industries in India that owe their origin to war. But industrial reconstruction does not appear within the purview of any of the committees (organised by Government) for reconstruction work. ... What war has given, the Government should not take away.

Dr. Nayudu urged social reform as a pre-requisite to agrarian reform, and pleaded for protection of the Indian grain-grower against overseas competition. He advocated production of more goods as the "real remedy" against inflation.

About 50 delegates from all over India attended the Conference.

Professors of Economics and Politics from almost all the Colleges in the Presidency attended the Conference.

Important papers on economic and kindred subjects were read at the session.

SUGAR AS COTTAGE INDUSTRY

A complete sugar-making plant on a cottage industry scale has been designed at the Sugar Research and Testing Station, Bilari, working under the Director of Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology. Consisting of an improved "kolhu", two pans, four crystallisers and a pedestal centrifugal, the plant deals with 25 to 30 maunds of cane per day.

The plant can be worked by a grower with the help of his family members and bullocks. At a demonstration arranged at the Badaun Exhibition, cultivators and zamindars saw the plant manufacturing improved quality of sugar. Besides yielding a higher return for the labour involved, the sugar manufactured with the help of this plant is free from excise duty as no motive power is employed in its working.

COTTON MILL PRODUCE

During May, 1943, cotton mills in Bombay City produced 41,508,000 lbs. of yarn and 33,354,000 lbs. of woven goods and those in Ahmedabad produced 20,051,000 lbs. of yarn and 16714,000 lbs. of woven goods. The total production of cotton yarn and piecegoods for the whole of the Province amounted to 71,471,000 lbs. and 55,959,000 lbs. respectively.

SEEDLESS TOMATOES

Tomatoes, America's number-one victory vegetable, can be induced to form seedless, more solidly meaty fruits by being treated with the fumes of a growth-promoting acid at or before the time the flowers open. Important horticultural developments may result from tests performed at the experimental station of the U. S. Department of Agriculture at Beltsville.

Use of growth-promoting chemicals to induce formation of seedless tomatoes and other fruits had already been reported by other researchers. However, their methods involved the use of sprays, or even direct application by hand. Getting similar results merely by subjecting plants temporarily to self-distributing fumes from a few milligrams of acid obviously saves a great deal of time and labour.

The Beltsville researchers placed a number of greenhouse tomato plants in a closed chamber, so that the exact concentration of the fumes could be measured. They used 250 milligrams (1/120 troy ounce) of betanaphthoxyacetic acid per 1,000 cubic feet of room space, evaporating it on a hot glass plate over an electric heater. After overnight exposure to the fumes, the plants were taken back to the greenhouse, where an equal number of untreated plants were placed with them for comparison purposes.

As the flowers opened, both treated and untreated plants were all carefully hand-pollinated. When tomatoes matured, they were compared for flavour, vitamins, and total mineral content. Except for the fact that tomatoes from the treated plants were nearly or altogether seedless, no difference could be detected between the two lots.

LOANS TO RYOTS

The Government of Madras have empowered District Agricultural Officers to grant loans to individual ryots up to Rs. 75 instead of up to Rs. 50 in all districts except Nilgiris for the purchase of manure or improved variety of seed as the prices of these have increased because of the war. In the case of the Nilgiris, Government have directed that cultivators be granted loans up to Rs. 250 for the purchase of manure and seed potatoes.

FEDERATION OF LABOUR

The phenomenal growth of the Indian Federation of Labour, the mobilisation of the Indian working classes under its lead in support of the prosecution of the war and plans for the securing of a proper share for Indian labour in the post-war settlement were reviewed at the first annual conference of the Federation held in Bombay recently under the presidentship of Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta. The conference was attended by 281 delegates from all over India, representing 332 affiliated unions and a total membership of 337,132.

Messages from prominent leaders and officials who could not attend were read at the conference. Sir Reginald Maxwell, Home Member, Government of India, wishing the conference success, stated

I am aware of the valuable lead which the I.F.L. has given to the Indian working class in support of the prosecution of the anti-Fascist war. Those who have given such support have the best title to participate in the benefits of the peace.

A message from Dr. B. R. Ambedkar stated.

I hope this effort of the Federation will succeed in educating labour not to be enmeshed in the narrow particularism of the trade unions, nor to be deceived by the false and outworn slogans of a fraudulent nationalism whose primary object is to exploit labour.

Miss M. Kara, Chairman of the Reception Committee, welcomed the delegates.

BONUS FOR TEXTILE WORKERS

An agreement has been reached between the Millowners' Association and the Textile Labour Association regarding the payment of bonus to the workers for the year 1943, whereby workers earning less than Rs. 200 will be given a bonus equal to one fifth of their earnings in 1943, irrespective of whether they are at present employed or not. The earnings will not include the amounts received by employees by way of dearness allowance, bonus or other emoluments and will only mean the wages or salaries as the case may be. The workers who have worked for less than 75 working days and more than 32 working days will be granted a bonus to the extent of 50 per cent. and employees who have worked for less than 33 working days will not be paid any bonus.

ORIENTAL CONFERENCE

Welcoming the delegates to the twelfth All-India Oriental Conference, which met at Benares, the Chairman of the Reception Committee, Sir S. Radakrishnan said, in the course of his speech :

In our country to day the Oriental Conference can be of immense value. By a scholarly appreciation of India's historical culture, by a proper estimate of the interaction of the different races and religions we can bring about a renaissance based on the integrity of Indian culture To-day we have to reckon with the stresses, conflicts and confusions and build fresh schemes with originality and freedom and in the strength of the legacy of ancient wisdom. In the spirit of our tradition which is one of comprehension and not withdrawal, let us move forward into the border realm of responsibility for the whole community.

Rao Bahadur Dr. S. K. Belvalkar of Poona, delivering the presidential address, dwelt at length on the research work carried on in different parts of the country on Indology and complained that what had been achieved so far and was likely to be achieved at the present rate of progress and the present methods of work was very small compared with what they had still to accomplish in almost every branch of study.

The Conference was opened by Maharajadhiraja of Darbhanga. The session was attended by about two hundred delegates, representing almost all the universities and research institutions in India, a Chinese delegation, a Ceylonese and a Polish representative.

Mr. P. V. Kane of Bombay was elected President of the next session of the All-India Oriental Conference.

The programme of the Conference included a variety entertainment, music, dances and scenes from Swapna Vasavadatta and Sakuntala and a popular lecture by Dr. H. M. Krishna on "Hoysala Architecture".

MR. FISCHER'S ARGUMENT

Mr. Louis Fischer, one of the most ardent American advocates of India's independence, who visited India last year and stayed for a week with Gandhiji, eloquently sums up the arguments against British rule in India in a small book entitled "Empire". His main argument is that Britain will gain economically by granting India freedom. However, the author himself realises that the argument will carry little weight with Mr. Churchill.

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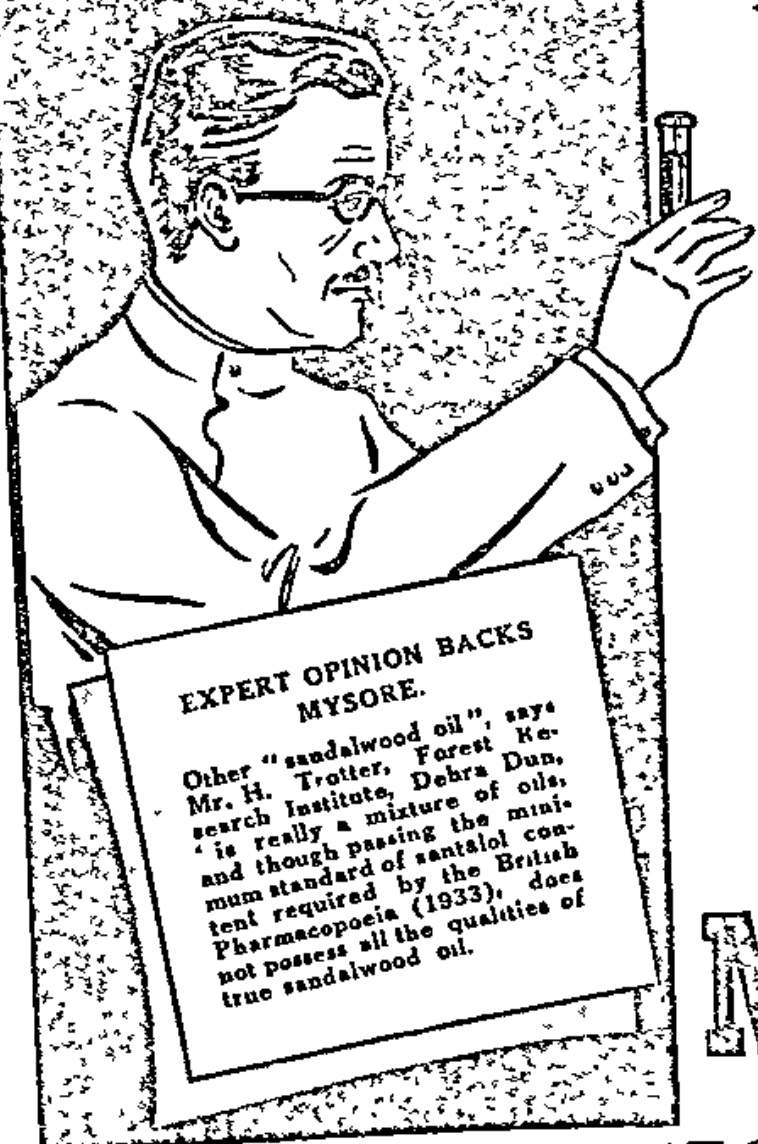
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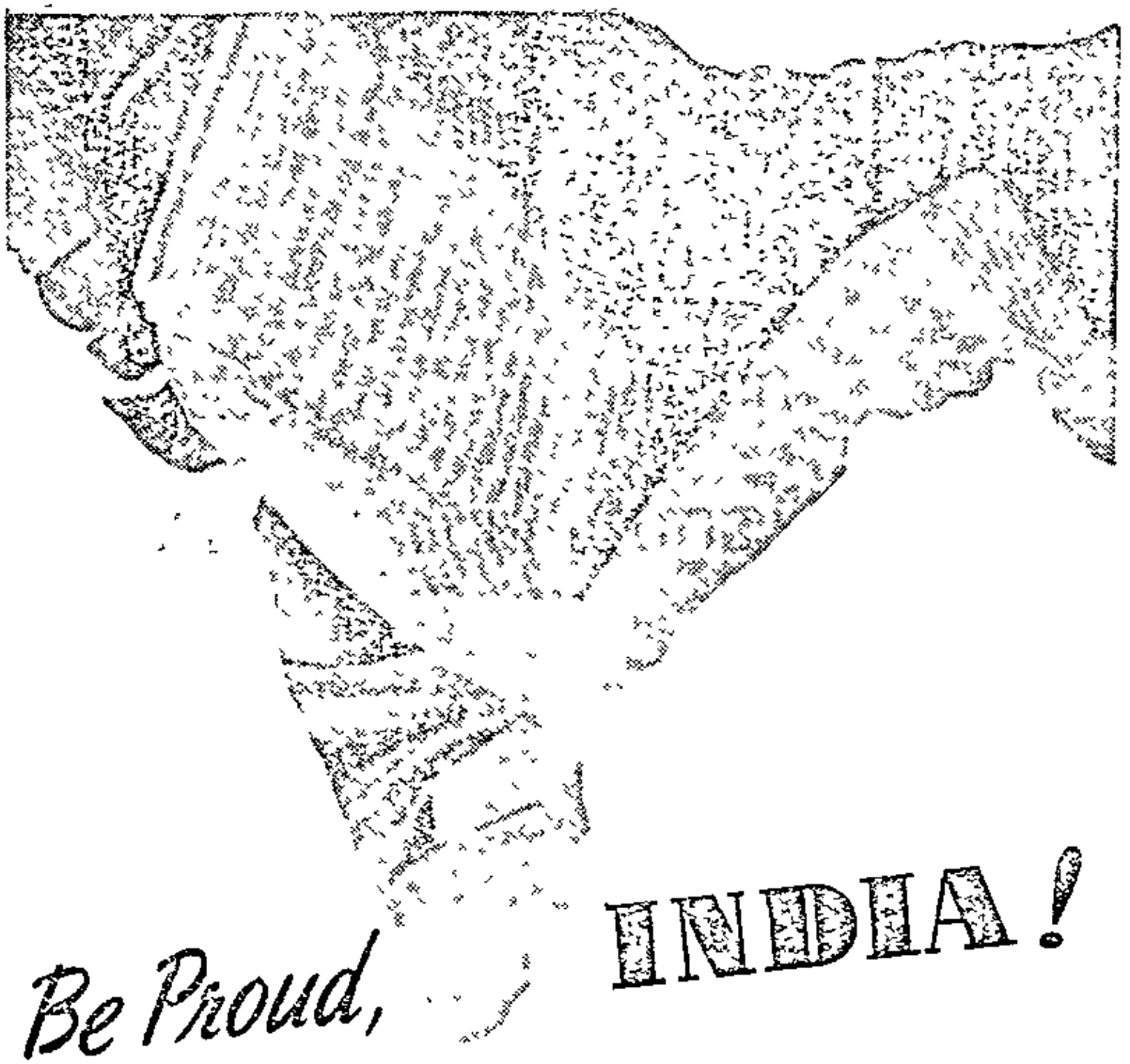
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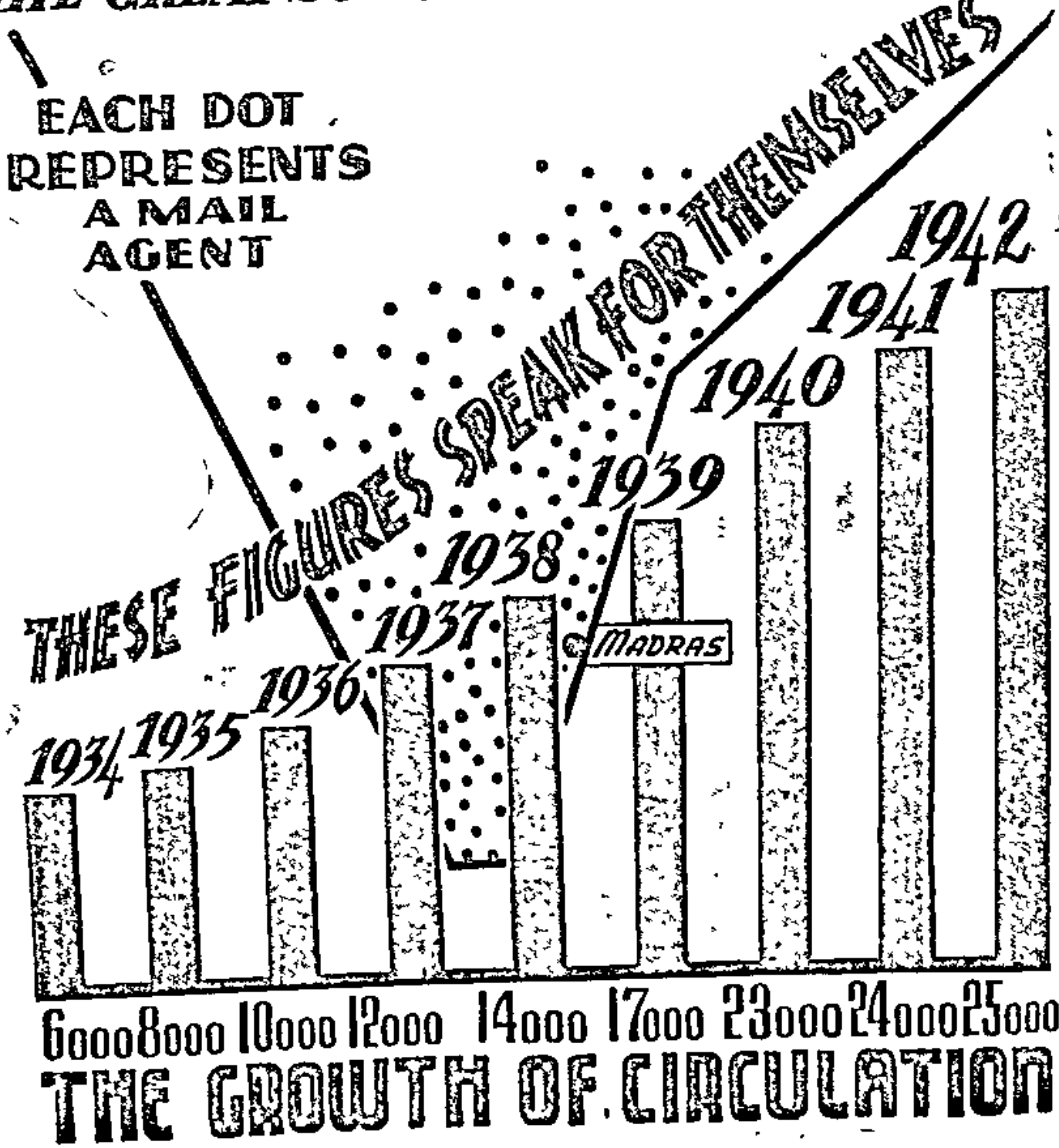
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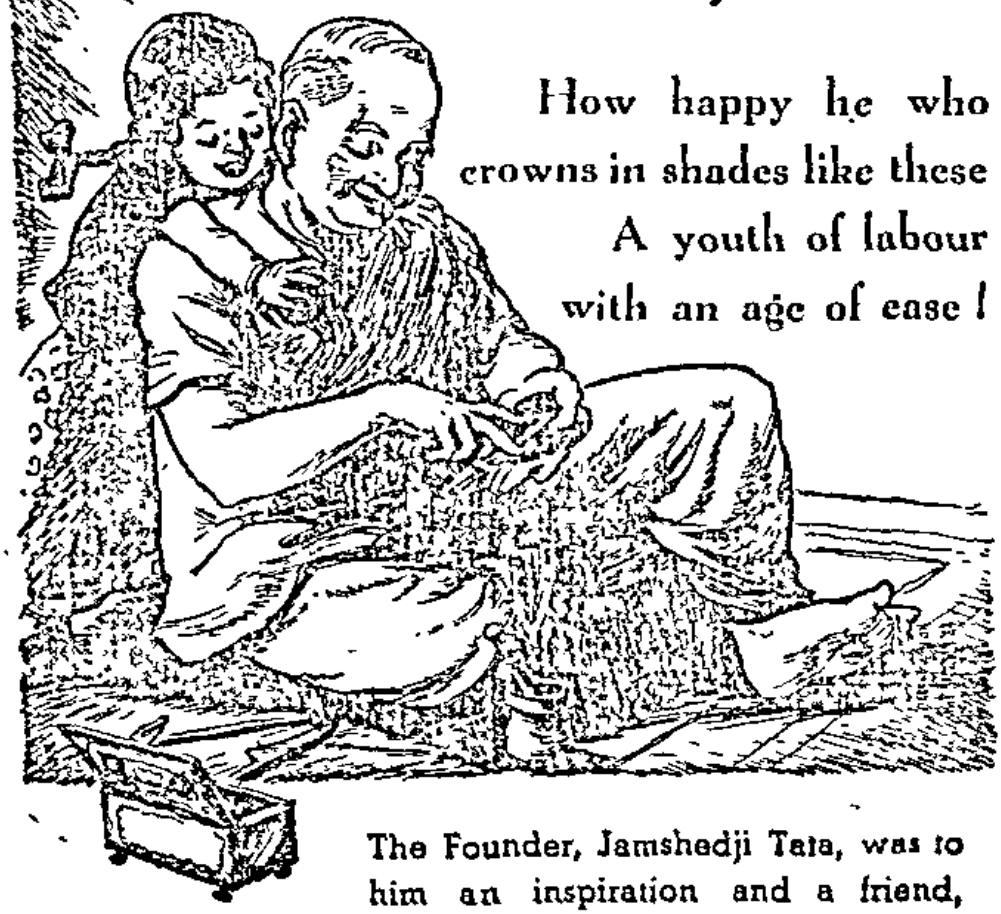
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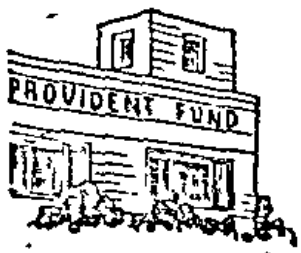
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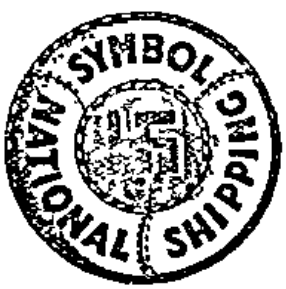
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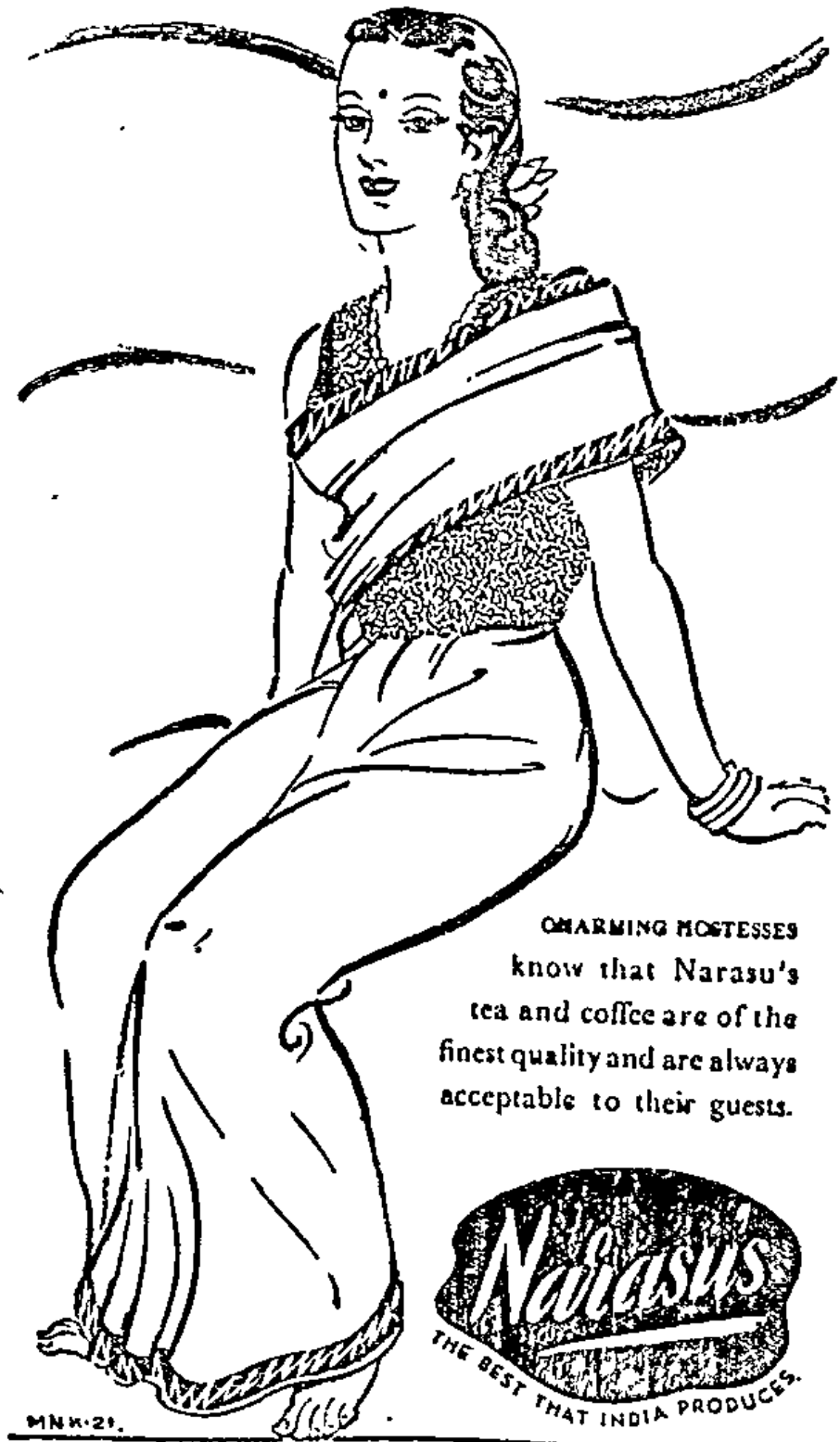
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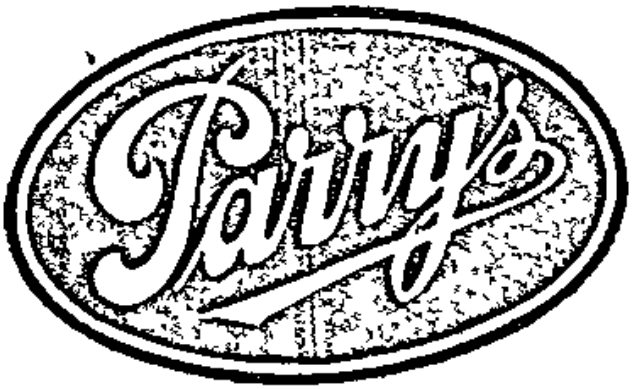
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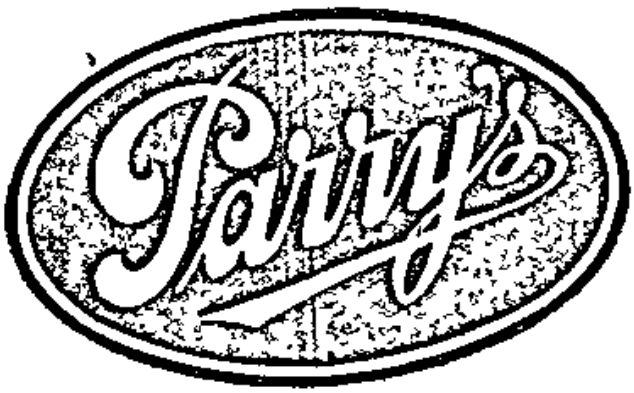
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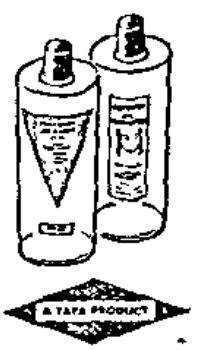
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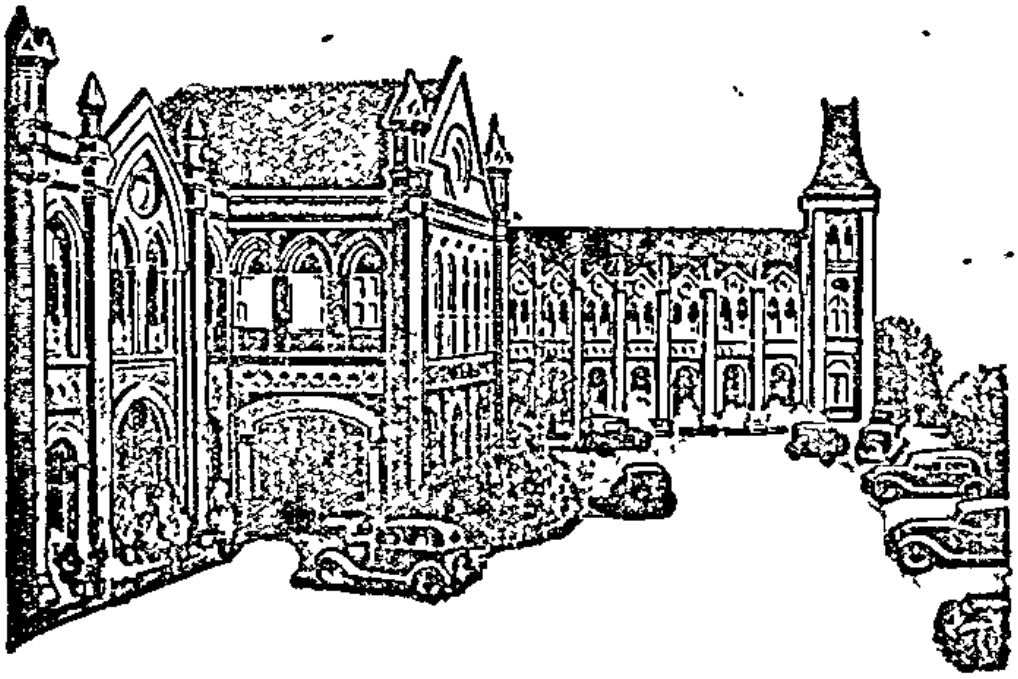
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.] MARCH 1944 [No. 3.

THE FIFTH YEAR

BY SIR ROSS BARKER

IN the fifth year of war, the country is unanimous in its determination to defeat Hitler and in its conviction that it will do so. It is completely divided in its answer to the questions "When?" and "What then?"

As to when the estimates vary from a few weeks to thirty years. After all, we once had a Hundred Years War. It is the question which is discussed whenever two people come together, and everyone is looking for signs and omens. To hope for illumination from those who ought to know most is vain. If there are any signs of depression, the politicians predict an early and glorious victory. Unfortunately this leads the workers to believe that they need not work any longer. So the politicians come in with prophecies of a very long and bloody war. Sometimes we get the two prophecies in two places at the same time, the cheery one when people are not cheery enough, and the grim one when they are too cheerful. This is mere propaganda. The fact is that no one knows enough about conditions in Germany to form any sort of opinion.

As to "What then?", there is great diversity of opinion, and the only common feature is apprehension. It is significant that there is a slump on the Stock Exchange whenever there is a rumour of an early Armistice. To mention Germany first: the country is divided acutely between those who believe that some Germans are good, and those who believe that all Germans are bad. To act on either belief brings with it a threat of a new war within a measurable distance. If we leave the good Germans in peace to work their will on Germany, they will soon be ousted by the bad Germans, as happened after the last war, and we shall have another war. If, on the other hand, we assume that all Germans are bad Germans, we shall have to indulge in repressive measures which cannot permanently be continued and which must ultimately end in a war of revenge. Pearl Harbour should have taught us the possibilities of sudden and deadly war by aeroplane, and whatever measures we take it seems impossible to deprive Germany ultimately of aeroplanes and the power to make them.

The problems of Germany, however, are nothing to the problems that will confront us in other parts of Europe. The Versailles Treaty peppered Europe with a number of independent countries, based mainly on nationality. The present war has shown that they are all strategic impossibilities. They are incapable of defending themselves and we are not in a position to defend them. All these nationalities will clamour for a revival of their independence, and it is doubtful in several

cases whether the Allies are unanimously in favour of their revival. There remains the problem of reconstituting France, and the history of French disagreements during the last few years holds out no very hopeful prospect.

At home we have a senile House of Commons elected in 1935, and since then mainly recruited by nominees of the Party Caucus. Many of its members are on war sevice of various kinds and a large proportion hold Ministerial office. The residue seem to have found something better to do than to attend its sittings. Recently, on several important occasions, there have not been thirty Members in the Chamber. Members seem to have lost interest in the House, and the country has lost interest in them. The Prime Minister and Lord Woolton are the only Ministers who have succeeded in exciting any popular enthusiasm. In the circumstances, a suggestion that Members should be paid £1,000 a year, instead of £600, has not evoked any support.

As in the House of Commons, so in the country, the vast majority of the population are absorbed in war work and the difficult problems of daily life. The talking is left to the aged, the cranks and the theorists. They are vocal enough, but whether they represent any views except their own is open to question. Their favourite subject is "the brave new world" since they have not had an opportunity of showing their bravery in any other direction. They are eloquent on the horrors of the social system as it existed before the war, horrors of which most of us were previously unaware. They have come to the conclusion that money does not matter, and advocate a reckless expenditure in every conceivable direction. No doubt there are some directions in which social expenditure is desirable, but it will be a matter of the gravest difficulty to carry out even a minimum of the things which require to be done. We shall be burdened with a colossal National Debt and an immense liability for pensions; we shall have to keep up a large Army, Navy and Air Force, and probably shall have to do much Police work in Europe; we have to provide food for the countries overrun by Hitler; we must replan London and other large cities; we shall have a vast re-housing problem and we must do our best to keep agriculture on its legs. All this expenditure means necessarily a rise in the cost of living and a rise in the cost of production. It is common ground that since we must import so much to live, we must increase our exports; and it is difficult to see how we can sell them if our costs go up, especially as other countries are either poor or increasingly industrialised. Much of the agitation for the brave new world proceeds from those who hope to get brave new jobs, and who are looking for safety first. The prospects for the hordes of Public Servants who at present infest the Government offices are extremely bleak if the war ends and their sheltering Ministries are disbanded. They are all trying by hook or by crook to justify their continued existence by undertaking new functions which are detestable to the country at large. Only to-day we are told the Ministry of Food is to survive in order to tell us what vitamins or other horrid stuff we are to consume. As against these functionaries, there is a growing feeling that the sooner we dispense with them and all their plans the better

Government control in some directions will be necessary for long after the war, but control is thoroughly unpopular. One of the effects of the war has been to denude the rich of their surplus wealth, and to create a vast new capitalist class, covering nearly the whole country and deriving their income from invested war savings. The last thing this class desires is to see its dividends disappear under staggering taxation and spent on wild cat schemes of reform. At present there is a race between different agitators who wish to be the first to dip their hands into the public purse, knowing that if they are not first they will find the purse empty.

To come to more domestic matters, we are, thanks to the Merchant Navy, adequately, though sometimes nastily fed: and that is a thing to be thankful for, which overrides all other discomforts. And there is no doubt that we are desperately uncomfortable. The longer we have the black-out, the more we dislike it but in these days it is only the exceptionally conscientious or timid man who carries a gas-mask. England is overcrowded with soldiers, evacuees, aliens and Government officials. In London it is a matter of the greatest difficulty to find a lodging or housing accommodation, and there is much complaint about the high charges. Food is almost as great a difficulty, mainly owing to the number of people who eke out their rations by taking meals in restaurants. One commonly sees queues of a hundred people or more waiting for admission to popular restaurants. Buses and trains are almost invariably overcrowded; and many services have been discontinued. When there is fish, which is not always, every fish shop has a long queue, and the same is true of cake shops. Fruit has always been very scarce or non-existent. Adults are rationed to 2 pints of milk ahead *a week!*

Matches are very capricious. In large towns it is generally possible to get one box by visiting about ten shops; but in the country villages are without matches for days together. Whisky and gin (at over 25*s*. a bottle) are very scarce; beer rather more plentiful. There is no difficulty at all about tobacco. The result is that if you have time you can generally get what you want, and the article which is unprocurable in nine shops proves to be procurable in the tenth. But it wastes a desperate lot of time, and it is a puzzle how people who work all day are able to market at all, with the shops opening at 9 a.m. and closing at 4 p.m., and closing for an hour for lunch. Food prices are generally controlled and therefore low, but fancy prices are charged for luxury goods, partly owing to the purchase tax and partly because the shopkeeper recoups himself by overcharging for luxury goods, since he has to undercharge for controlled goods. Domestic servants are of course rapidly disappearing, and are very expensive. Most houses are servantless and bishops have to do their own washing up and make their own beds. This is probably a very good thing for them, but the situation presses very hardly on the aged and infirm, and on wives overburdened with public work and the care of children. It is impossible to foretell the ultimate issue but it is clear that if domestic servants cannot be obtained, most of the houses in the West of London will become untenantable.

We worry very little about bombs. The chance of being hit is at present very remote, and bombs do not cause nearly as many deaths as motor-cars, though occasionally there is a big disaster. I hear our alert almost daily, but it is so seldom that anything emerges from it that I pay no attention.

The population seems to be curiously excitable. At the moment the war is being carried on in distant theatres, and people seem to be more concerned about sheer trivialities than about the war. Columns of the papers have been filled with silly talk about the release of Sir Oswald Mosley (as if it mattered!), some nurse who was discontented with her hospital, a naughty boy who was birched, and a man who said he advocated birching (recently a small boy set fire to a school and did £ 60,000 damage), about another boy who was told to go down a mine, and a member of the Home Guard who was punished for disorderly conduct. Men go out on strike by hundreds for quite trivial reasons or for no discoverable reason at all. All this represents a very dangerous revolt against authority, but the fault lies rather with the authority than with the rebels. The fact is that there are so many authorities at the present time, and many of them so bad, that revolt is intelligible, if not excusable. The symptom shows the advisability of returning as soon as possible to a less autocratic form of Government.

To sum up, it may be said for the present that though we have much to grumble about, our grumbles are not very serious, and they are quite overshadowed by our thankfulness to the Forces—Army, Navy and Airforce, the workers in factory and shipyard, and above all the Merchant navy, for seeing us through so many perils and bringing us to a not too distant sight of peace. Perhaps it is not too much to hope that the wisdom which has brought us so far through the war will preserve us through the peace.

THE MUSIC OF THYAGARAJA

BY MR. S. V. RAMAMÛRTI, C.I.E., I.C.S.

—:o:—

SOME two years ago, when I opened a Thyagaraja festival, I said that if Thyagaraja could deliver a message, I could imagine him to say. "I attained God through music. There are many ways of reaching Him. But music is so sweet a way." These are the words he would say if he could send a message to-day too. These words express both the spirit and the form of Thyagaraja's art. Art needs unity for its vehicle. Unity may be reached at various levels. We who are at the periphery of life, perceive unity in the atoms and quanta of physics, in the units of arithmetic and in the unity of the individual. But saints like children are near the core of life. Both are near to God. While children come from God, saints reach into God. The unity that saints perceive unites

and not also divides. It is amazing how deep into life saints have delved. It is the glory of scientists that behind all the varied appearances of matter they have been able to perceive equal and undistinguishable atoms, and behind them, electrons and protons. But atoms, electrons and protons are many. The atom of spirit is but one. Hence science while seeking the one yet continues to encounter the many. Saints seek and find the One. Saints, indeed, are the supreme artists. They cannot, even if they would, lose touch with unity. The problem of existence is simplified for the saint. Like the problem of two bodies which Newton has solved, there are only two beings for a saint—himself and God. Art is the integration of thought, emotion or action. If the saint thinks, he can but think of God. If the saint feels, he can but feel God. If the saint acts, he can but act God. Art for the saint then is union with God in its three forms of Gnana, Bhakti and Karma Yoga. Not only is the art of a saint pure and simple, it is all embracing. He feels not a sense of emptiness but of fulness. His "Neti Neti" ends not in rejection but in fulfilment. In the silence of his mind, he hears the hum of the world that is and the worlds that may be.

I have peered into the mind of a saint to know wherefrom came the Rama laden melody of Thyagaraja's music. Thyagaraja thinks of Rama, sings of Rama, longs for Rama and searches for Rama, because he knows no one else. But to him, Rama is none else but all the universe. This is the quality not only of Thyagaraja's music but of all Indian art—be it music or dance, painting, sculpture or architecture. A deep and abiding sense of God is the root of Indian life. Art in India is the flower of that sense.

A few days ago I heard the story of the life, rather the lives, of Jada Bharata in the Mahabharata with the verses in Bhagavad Gita which contain the spirit of the story. To Bharata, consciousness of God in all that he saw was real and intimate. Sometime ago, I saw the film of Bammera Pothana. Pothana fed the unbidden guest, returned good for evil and loved all. His actions look contrary to the springs of modern action. But a deep-laid instinct in us tells us, as we see the film, that Pothana's conduct was right. To many in the present day, India looks a race enslaved to the idea of God. On the contrary, for her very belief in the One of the universe, India is among the elect of the earth. Any one who seeks to barter the permanent values of religion for temporary material gain is like the aborigine who bartered gold and ivory for beads of glass.

Truth, beauty and goodness are the qualities of art. If truth is beauty and beauty truth, so are they both goodness. Evil is wrong because it is ugly. The saint is the salt of India. The saint is good. Therefore his life is true and beautiful. The value of Thyagaraja's music springs primarily from his saintliness. Art finds its craft as the ideal is embodied in the real. The quality of Thyagaraja's saintliness is seen in the mellow sweetness, in the sweet simplicity of his music. Sweetness is indeed the essence of his craft. Thyagaraja attained God through music and he chose music as his way because it was so sweet.

GANDHI AND WORLD PEACE

BY MR. LIONEL FIELDEN

[Gandhiji and his Congress friends are still the victims of a persistent campaign of misrepresentation both at home and abroad. They are not in a position to defend themselves. Mr. Lionel Fielden, Ex-Controller of Broadcasting in India, who had exceptional opportunities of knowing Gandhiji and his attitude to the war, has done a public service in interpreting Gandhiji and his method for the benefit of the world at large. "I doubt whether anyone, unless he has the hide of a hippopotamus and the mind of a fossilized blimp, could fail to perceive the goodness of the man, a goodness may be as irritating to politicians as Christ's was to Pilate, but nevertheless good. . . . The only method of avoiding war is the method of Gandhi: let the planners and the politicians prate as they will, there is no alternative, none." Thus Mr. Fielden in his timely book—*Beggar My Neighbour*—from which the following extracts are culled.—ED. *I.R.*]

THE representative of spiritual India—which does not mean orthodox—religious India—is Gandhi: and the character of Gandhi is as puzzling as the fourth dimension. Is he saint or politician or both? Is he, as some think, nearer to Christ and Christ's teachings than anyone else in this modern materialistic fighting world, or is he, as others hold, an impishly adroit Machiavelli using Christianity as a tool? How far does he really represent India, and India's future?

I doubt whether anyone, unless he had the hide of a hippopotamus and the mind of a fossilized blimp, could fail to perceive the goodness of the man: a goodness may be as irritating to politicians as Christ's was to Pilate, but nevertheless good. Yet there, are the hippopotami and the blimps, and after my first meeting, I might well have been one of them.

The bother about Gandhi, as far as Englishmen are concerned, is that he makes you feel small, or to put it a little differently, he makes you feel that your soul, or your motives if you like, may be rather mean and paltry. He does not do this purposely: he would be the last person in the world to humiliate anyone: it is simply that his whole attitude denies yours and you must either turn an uncomfortable mental somersault or else like the rich young man with Christ go away exceedingly sorrowful and generally exceedingly bitter and calling Gandhi an old rogue, in order that you may safely rationalise your own way of life again and close up the horrid vista of spiritual emptiness which Gandhi inevitably discloses.

True, a great many worldly-wise, successful and intelligent people may logically be impatient of a "spiritual" attitude which robs them of success and distinction and power, condemns themselves and their children to poverty, and seemingly gives free rein, at any rate for the time being, to Hitler and other bullies. I chafe at it myself. I should funk the rigours of life at Wardha.

Be that as it may, Gandhi's life and attitude represent something very deeply embedded to the Indian mind.

* * * *

This non-material attitude of India is, I venture to think—and I daresay that many Europeanised Indians as well as Europeans, may scorn me for so thinking—of considerable importance to the future of humanity. The Western world is caught in the grip of materialism: industrialisation, the need for markets, the desire for power, the growing realisation in the mind of

the masses that they are "poor" and ought to be richer and even the socialist cry for better conditions and higher wages, all contribute to that grip: and the success of materialism certainly means the establishment of a world not of freedom for the human spirit but of the regimentation of efficient robots.

And from such a world the four hundred millions of India combined perhaps with the millions of China, may yet do something to save the millions of the West. It may not be so; the dice may be already too heavily loaded, the machine too firmly entrenched, but who dare prophesy in what direction a work wearied by senseless massacre and disillusioned by the failure of its gods, might yet turn?

The outlook of India, which the western businessman has so contemptuously dismissed as inefficient, may yet prove more enduring than that of grasping, war-torn Europe: it may come nearer to the heart of mankind than the screams of Hitler and the grunt of Churchill. The only method of avoiding war is the method of Gandhi: let the planners and the politicians prate as they will; there is no alternative, none.

Humanity does sometimes move quite quickly, as in Russia, as indeed in Europe to-day eastern and western ideas may not combine successfully except between equal partners. India has not retreated so far from the goal of self-government that previous progress looks as if it might have been based on an ultimate hyprocrisy.

Whether India can stand—that is find her own recipe for happiness—alone, we don't know: and history will not inform us, because there is nothing to show what India, left to herself, would have done with the discoveries and inventions of the past hundred years, or, for that matter, in what way she would herself have developed.

Industrialisation could undoubtedly give India up-to-date houses and plumbing and electric kitchens and chairs and tables, and plaster the remotest village with neon signs: it could unquestionably "raise the standard of living"; but I am still inclined to think that that is a debatable aim. What, I hope, is not debatable, is that war is an evil thing: what may well be true is that non-violence is its only permanent cure.

Because Gandhiji has held this doctrine, (non-violence) and for the second time in history put it into practice, he has been accused of many things which are wholly alien to his nature and teaching. And British propaganda about Gandhiji has scarcely, during this war, come up to British standards of fairplay.

Gandhiji has been deliberately represented as being and is so imagined by millions of decent English folk—anti-British, pro-Japanese, the main, if not the only wrecker of the Cripps proposals, a saboteur, a deliberate instigator of violence, a defeatist. I suppose that Pilate, had he possessed the advantages of press and wireless, might have thought up similar lines.

Gandhi has given his life to a constant and unrelenting fight against two things —aggression and violence. It is a fight to a finish; he has come to bring not peace but a sword, in the sense that Christ also did. Gandhi sees humanity as a whole, and bears no malice to any section of it: the time will come when it will be seen how, again and again, he prevented violent action against the British, whom after all, he had more reason to dislike than of any other nation.

Gandhiji's conception of non-violence is not defeatism; it is scarcely even pacifism

as that word has now come to be interpreted in England. Gandhiji is dynamic and *not static: he represents* and guides to a very great extent the inchoate ideas and aspirations of India's submerged and still static millions: and for their souls the race between materialism and spiritualism is on. Gandhi is the unrelenting enemy of power, wealth, aggression and industrialisation: he is the greatest living exponent of the creed *of love.*

I believe, as I have said, that his doctrine of non-violence might appeal, for India's cause at least even to the world-war *strategist:* I *would add how strangely* it seems that Christians, and in particular Christian ministers lip-serving in their churches and repeating the words "Blessed are *the peace-makers: for they shall* be called the Children of God," can view with indifference and even approval the incarceration of Gandhi by the Pilates of to day.

Gandhi, laughing in jail at 73, while America and Britain hasten to hustle India into modernisation, may not live to see anything but the apparent failure of his mission, as other prophets *have done; but* an idea which is right is more enduring than panzers or politicians.

I have a notion that the legend of Gandhi may yet be a flaming inspiration to the *millions of the East,* and perhaps to those of the West. But it is for the time being at least, the East which provides the fruitful soil because the East has not yet *fallen prone, as the West has done, before* the Golden Calf. And it may be for the East, once again, to show mankind that human happiness does not depend on that *particular form of worship,* and that the conquest of materialism is also the conquest of war.

TO INDIA

I do not claim thee as mine own
When loud the stranger world applauds thy mystery:
The lure intangible, the hidden power
That draw men to thee in the frighted hour
Of fading life. For these I love thee not.
Alas! I know thee not.

But when the stranger looks aghast at thee,
At filth and hunger, crying poverty,
When stunned with sight of endless sluggishness
He turns away in civilised dismay,
Ah then! I know thee as thou art—
A woman plunged in misery; an anguished heart,
An aching body rent today with cry
Of starving hollowness.
Then to retreating worlds let me proclaim
That I am thine and that I bear thy name.

M. DA C.
in *Mysindia Annual.*

Some Thoughts on Post-War Development

By Mr. S. P. AGRAWAL

THERE is much ado about post-war planning and reconstruction everywhere in view of the hopes of an early cessation of hostilities. The attention of the Indian commercial community and the Government of India is also focussed on the problem and there is no doubt that the betterment of the Indian economic conditions largely depends upon a proper and adequate tackling of the issue.

For the West, reconstruction is a change from war to peace: for the Westerners, it is only a task of repairing the damages resulting from war or in other words to set aright the ravages of the war: for the Western countries all that is to be undertaken by them in the matter of reconstruction after war is to replace and restore the solid foundations of industries and to construct a superstructure on the foundations already existing.

The problem of reconstruction for India is difficult, different and more fundamental in character. There is no denying the fact that India stands the greatest need for post-war development than any other country of the world. We in India have yet to seek, re-search, make and establish our foundations nearly in all spheres of life, agriculture and development. We have to restore our national life on more efficient and sound footing. The war has shaken India's economic fabric to its very foundations. No doubt India has seen a speck of industry during the last decade, but economic life since has considerably deteriorated. All our reconstruction and development must aim at the welfare of mankind in all their aspects and this can only be possible if policies economic, fiscal and financial are drawn up now, otherwise the issues to come as a result of the war will leave us in a fix and our development will be jeopardised.

From the setting up of Reconstruction Committees by the Government of India and the Government of Provinces as also by the speech of the Viceroy at the Annual Meeting of the Associated Chambers, the interest shown by the Government is apparent. There is no doubt that the Viceroy hit at the very core of the problem by stressing the need for agricultural improvements, and this can be materialised only if proper investigation into the development of irrigation, communication, hydro-electric and power schemes and scientific research relating to agriculture is undertaken. With agricultural advancement, which requires revolutionary changes in the post-war period, industrial expansion is bound to come. This, however, does not visualize that this important factor should be overlooked at this stage. But, on the contrary, it suggests that preparation of proper and systematic schemes for post-war industrial development should be undertaken, which may not remain schemes on paper, but should have possibilities of being materialized. Along with agricultural development in the country, industrialization is unavoidable for economic emancipation as in the words of Sir Homi P. Mody: "In this country agriculture, industry and handicraft must go together and create an India in which the spectre of chronic hunger, squalor and disease may disappear and in which a vigorous peace-loving nation can make its own contribution to the

progress of mankind". The majority of people in India live under conditions which no civilized mind can tolerate. One has only to cast a glance at human skeletons, clothed in half-rags and living in mud-walls which stalk across the length and breadth of the country. It is a problem of "jobs houses and rest" in the words of Mr. Churchill and for all on an equal footing. This must be the aim of all reconstruction and development for the planners of reconstruction in India.

1. AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS

India is very much deficient in its production of food requirements, which is mainly due to low yield. Greater food production is also necessary in view of the rapid rate of increase in her population. At least the production should be doubled to provide the Indian masses the bare minimum of their food requirements. In order to increase production, agriculture should be planned on scientific basis with all the machinery and irrigation facilities. The recommendations of Foodgrains Policy Committee should be implemented and extensive cultivation should be undertaken. Important reasons responsible for the low yield are excessive pressure on land, uneconomic holdings, rural indebtedness, lack of irrigation facilities, paucity of up-to-date agricultural implements and manure, poor quality of seeds, and therefore it is necessary that steps should be taken—

(1) to educate the villagers and train them for applying scientific methods to agriculture;

(2) to adopt measures to eradicate conservatism from the villagers;

(3) to provide better housing, better sanitation, health and all equipments of village comforts;

(4) to improve ill-balanced diet of the people;

(5) to provide better seeds and better manure;

(6) to prevent fragmentation of holdings;

(7) to bring more area under cultivation and to relieve the existing pressure on lands;

(8) for intensive cultivation;

(9) for increasing the supply of fertilizers;

(10) for creation of new irrigation supplies; and

(11) for intensive research work to enable increase in yield per acre, by eliminating uneconomic methods of production and use of modern implements, fertilizers and improved seeds, etc.

2. INDUSTRY

To have a true approach to the subject of Industrial Planning in post-war period, it should be split up as follows:—

(a) Investigation and preparation during the war period by (i) thorough research work into the resources of the country, (ii) making a list for the demands of machinery and plant for utilization of the resources in order to make the country economically strong and self-sufficient,

(b) thorough insight into post-war requirements for capital re-equipment of industries necessitated by the fact that most of the industries are working multiple shift to meet the requirements of the war;

(c) long range planning;

(d) arrangement to sustain war-time industries on the cessation of hostilities.

The efforts of the planners should be directed towards the possibilities of erecting and starting key industries, like locomotive, machine tool industries and engineering industries with a view to supply plant

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and machinery for industrial expansion in India, and also towards projects like Hydro-electric schemes on large-scale, as the assuring of cheap power for all the industries and public is of utmost importance. A thorough search for raw material and mineral wealth should be undertaken and heavy chemical industries, *viz.*, Soda Ash, Sulphuric Acid, Caustic Soda, Ammonia, Nitric Acid, Magnesium Sulphate, Magnesium chloride, Bleaching Agents, Dyes and Pigments, Dying Agents, Commercial solvents, oils, alcohols and acids should be started. The coal industry should be organized as to ensure easy and constant output. With all the industries vouching for industrial expansion, we should not loose sight of industries for consumers' goods. It is absolutely necessary that public benefit and daily necessity industries be started in abundance in the post-war period. India's sterling assets have reached the mark of over Rs. 700 crores and these are still estimated to increase to one thousand crores, by the end of the war. With the purchasing power thus acquired by us combined with natural resources at our command, we can hope for a successful industrial development after the war, if the Government works in close co-operation with Indian commercial and industrial interests.

3. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

The problem of transportation and communication will grow much more important than now with industrial and agricultural developments. The need for adequate distribution of food, for providing better marketing facilities for the agriculturist and the industrialist both, it is very necessary that transportation and communication is organized and developed on scientific lines. The only means of transport now available is railway, and motor service, but it is so inadequate that it cannot possibly cope with the increasing demand. Improved communication is absolutely essential and must precede agricultural and industrial development in order to enable the latter to be successful. In this country huge areas are completely cut off from the market, which has resulted in economic backwardness. Marketing, commercialisation and sales on scientific basis can only be achieved if first-class means of communication are available. This will reduce the importance of the middleman from all spheres of business and life. Communication should be planned on a basis which may make India one for all and within reach of everybody, without which no planning or reconstruction can succeed.

There are many more aspects of reconstruction besides raising the productive capacity of India—industrial and agricultural—but in this short note it will not be possible to deal with the subject in its entirety. However, an attempt is being made to enumerate at least some of them.

4. PUBLIC HEALTH

Sanitation, and municipal administration for public benefit is of utmost importance. Every family has the right to have a decent house in a decent locality: Every one has the right to have proper medical care and ordinary recreation facilities and every one has the right to earn enough for food and clothing. It is of utmost importance that the planners must aim at providing every citizen a minimum healthy and balanced diet, adequate medical relief and healthy surroundings along with comfortable housing problem, thereby making the public health of every citizen

of India at least tolerable which at present is utterly neglected. To attain this object, improvements in medicine and surgery should be effected; under expert medical supervision welfare clinics for healthy city life should be started.

5. EDUCATION

The provision for minimum education to make every one a good citizen is of course necessary but the need for technical education is no less. The labour should be technically educated to make the rapid industrialization possible.

6. UNEMPLOYMENT

With the termination of hostilities, the problem of unemployment will confront itself with all its gravity and it will endanger social security as well. The problem of employment can be dealt only by adopting expansionist productive policy, raising the potential wealth of India and by utilizing the vast resources of the country economically and efficiently.

In any scheme of planning the need for raising the per capita income—the national wealth of the country by economic utilization of its resources, and social security cannot be denied, and the aim can only be achieved, by increasing the purchasing power of the masses of the country and which in turn can alone be rendered possible by increasing production both in agricultural and industrial field.

The Fifteen-Year Plan issued by Sir Purushottamdas and others is the first complete economic plan presented to the public and the Government which aims at revolutionizing the living conditions in India by trebling the total national income and doubling the per capita income. Some may call it Utopian but this is one which gives us a basis to think that our hopes can be materialized. It meets the practicability of utilizing the ideal resources and potentialities for planning provided by India and envisages the raising of the per capita income and meeting the shortage of the consumers' goods.

THE "SAVE AND LEND" CAMPAIGN

BY MR. RAMCHANDRA N. DESAI, M A. LL B.

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THE "Save and lend" campaign launched by the Government of India with a view to withdraw the surplus purchasing power from the hands of the people deserves far greater attention of the economists of the country than what has been paid to it hitherto. This is especially so, when the Government themselves do not show more zeal for the same except by way of wide publicity. The campaign has been started to check the chief evil tendency of inflation, *viz.*, the soaring prices of commodities. It is a commonly accepted economic doctrine that other things being equal the price level goes down as the volume of currency in circulation is contracted. The amount of currency notes in circulation in India has sky-rocketed to more than 850 crores leading to a soaring price level. The inflation can be checked root and branch only if the present financial arrangement between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government is revised in

such a way that it may not be necessary for the Government of India to put more currency into circulation.

The alternative method of checking the inflation is to simultaneously follow deflationary methods. The Government of India realising, though somewhat late the evil of inflation have tried to devise measures for checking "the price inflation" by adopting deflationary measures, and appointed a special officer for the purpose. These measures are to borrow crores of rupees from the people. The Provincial Governments as well as the Central Government have floated loans as part of this "Save and lend" campaign. The amounts of these loans being limited, they are subscribed no sooner than they are advertised. The amounts of these loans being small do not touch even the fringe of the vast problem of withdrawing the ever-growing surplus purchasing power. From October, 1943, the Government have launched a new offensive in this "Save and lend" campaign by issuing national savings certificates through the Post Offices, and also by increasing the rate of interest on postal savings. The rate of interest on these certificates is slightly lower than 4 per cent. In order to realise this rate of interest to the fullest extent, the investor has to wait for a period of twelve long years during which he is not sure how the price level would alter. Such a low rate of interest would not attract the people to invest their surplus money. The rate of interest for the postal savings as well as the Defence Savings Certificates (which were issued before the National Savings Certificates came to be issued) has been on the whole very low, and consequently during the war-years money seems to have been diverted from the Post Office to war-time industries most probably. The following table* clearly shows a gradual decline in the amount held in Post Office Savings Bank and Post Office Certificates:—

The decline in postal investments as shown above may be to a great extent due to the inclination of the middle class and poor people to invest their surplus money in higher interest-bearing alternatives. Some of the investments which may seem profitable at present may ultimately prove futile as soon as the war comes to an end and so it is necessary that middle class and poor people should be induced not to fritter away their resources but to preserve them in such forms which may give them adequate security as well as adequate returns. This would be possible if the Government can make their "Save and lend" campaign successful by giving up the "cheap money" policy and by deciding to pay higher returns on loans as well as postal investments.

The above suggestion may, perhaps, be objected to, on the ground that sufficient money may not be available in future for industrial finance. This objection can be regarded as baseless, firstly, because the currency media in circulation is already so large that even if about 300 crores are withdrawn (which does not

*FIGURES IN CRORES OF RUPEES

Year	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	REVISED ESTIMATE. 1942-43	BUDGET ESTIMATE. 1943-44
Post Office Savings Bank	81·88	78·32	59·51	52·18	50·33	53·53
Post Office Certificates	59·57	57·03	49·28	43·37	39·37	38·37

seem likely) by the "Save and lend" campaign, an amount far more than that will still be available for industrial finance in the post-war period. Secondly, the Government have to carry out vast schemes of construction and reconstruction as envisaged in scores of reports of the Central as well as Provincial Governments. As recently stated, the Government would require about 450 crores for a proper development of communications and about 300 crores for the spread of education and possibly a similar amount for the promotion of the health of the nation. The huge amount of money required by the Government for the various plans of post-war reconstruction should be got by borrowing at present when people have surplus purchasing power. This borrowing programme, the "Save and lend" campaign will be very successful if the Government abandon the policy of "cheap money" and offer a somewhat higher rate of interest. The Finance Member, Sir Jeremy Raisman, in his Budget Speech in March, 1943, rightly stated "It may well be said that in the context of a war economy, a public loan is twice blessed, it blesseth him that gives and him that takes. To the State it spells an indispensable aid to victory while to the investor it means not only a precaution against the perils and uncertainties of the transition from war to peace after victory has been gained, but also a potent preventive against the economic and social disorder which may arise from the uncontrolled exercise of purchasing power in relation to limited or diminishing stocks of consumable goods."

Heavier borrowing for financing the war will obviate the necessity of high taxation which has already nearly doubled during the war period. A very high taxation is incompatible with the low national dividend and consequently a very low taxable capacity of the people. Borrowing is the only way to alleviate the great hardships from which the people suffer. In England the Excess Profit Tax withdraws the war-profits of the industries to the extent of 100 per cent. In India it is not possible to increase Excess Profit Tax as it would adversely affect the industries of the country. Further taxation in form should not be resorted to. The alternative method of borrowing will help the Government to finance the war measures and the post war schemes if the Government would induce the people to invest their surplus purchasing power in Government loans, defence bonds, postal savings, National Savings Certificates, etc., by offering them *higher returns* for such investments. The Government should not feel obsessed with the classical idea that the tendency of the rate of interest is to fall. On the other hand, the Government should induce the people to lend to Government not by mere advertisements and passive propaganda, but by taking the active step of granting substantial returns on the amounts which the people might part with. Interest is, after all, the price of abstinence, and so, if this price is small, the people will not be inclined to practise necessary abstinence. As to what should be the adequate price, *viz*., the maximum limit of the rate of interest, it can be well decided by the Finance Department in collaboration with the Reserve Bank in such a way that the Government get adequate finance for the war and the post-war purposes.

THE PUBLIC LIFE

By Mr. T. S. RAJAGOPALA IYENGAR, M.A., LL.B.

PUBLIC life is used by me in the popular sense which limits it to politicians. Many generations have said, probably in haste, that the Legislature is no longer a fit place for gentlemen to sit in or politics a becoming occupation for them to pursue.

Before democracy or dictatorship, in the sense it is understood now, was prevalent, a time existed when political power was bought and sold to the highest bidder. The average politician counted for little, except when the spoils were distributed. The great majority attached themselves to their patrons. Most of them represented either close burroughs, which were the properties of territorial magnates or rotten burroughs, which were for sale or purchase. It was a time when tickets for State Lotteries were sold to members of Legislature in parcels of 500 and resold by them at a profit of £ 2 a ticket. Government loans were subscribed for by the friends of Government at par and then thrown on the City at a premium of 7 per cent. and 11 per cent. There were favourable contracts for honourable members. They could have highly endowed posts and pension. Private morals, of course, were in keeping with the ideas *of public duty. For the great majority,* public life was a mere incident in the life of pleasure and fashion with no duties and obligations.

How private and furtive was the process of Government may be guaged from the fact that one Wilkie was thought to have done a novel and dangerous thing in printing the names of ministers in his *North Britain*. But the Industrial Revolution, the French Revolution, the Declaration of the Rights of Man, the American Declaration, the Reforms Bills in England and the writings of the political philosophers of the day, they all changed the atmosphere and democracy came to stay. Gladstone once said that the mechanics of foreign policy concerned people rather than Sovereigns or diplomats and mass meetings were as good judges as the Chancellories and the Cabinets. So we pass to a new kind of public life.

The star performer no longer reserves himself to election times but is all over the country at all times obeying the call of whips and party managers. When the politicians came into the open, the press followed them from Parliament to the platform. We are seeing the new order and the new politics. We are supposed to be ruled by public opinion. At certain intervals, regular under systems like that of the U.S.A. and irregular under the Parliamentary systems, the ordinary busy citizen is asked on a given day, to sit in judgment upon his rulers. He is to exercise his vote.

The butcher, baker, banana-seller, beedi-walla, barber and the banker, in addition to being wise about his own personal affairs has also to be wise about everybody-*else's as well. He is to judge the affairs* of the world and to become a statesman dealing with extremely difficult and complex subjects. These complex matters, often of war and peace, which must necessarily be settled casually and hurriedly can only receive a spare time attention. Yet the beedi-walla or the banana-seller is usually very positive and dogmatic in his political opinions. People would be impatient if the candidate seeking

wants to reason out the intricate and unexciting economic problems to be tackled. The audience would get fidgety and consequently he would lose the vote. If, on the other hand, he were to say that the Government should have done this, done that, that it has miserably failed, that people are unnecessarily harassed, etc, he would certainly get the vote Did not people, immediately after the last war, vote for the candidates who said "I am for hanging the Kaiser", I am for making Germany pay the whole cost of war, etc, in preference to others who wanted to argue. History repeats itself.

Public passion and public ignorance play a part in the world of which he who aspires to lead a democracy must take account. In 1852, Palmerston said that it was an outrageous calamity to fight Russia for upholding Turkey, but in 1854, he said that to fight Russia had become a solemn obligation of honour. In between this interval nothing had happened except a certain metamorphosis in that elusive thing, public temper, which Palmerstone only followed.

The democracies are worked through party systems, and the parties, in their turn, are controlled and stage managed by a few people—the party caucuses and bosses. Others will be counted if they implicitly obey what their leaders say, otherwise, they would be nothing. In our own State we see this phenomenon working. People, devoid of learning, simply because they happen to belong to a majority community and can afford to contribute to the coffers of the party, become leaders of leading parties. We, the rank and file, to survive "the onslaught" of party discipline, have to obey every mandate that comes from them or through them, and also to be flattering them in and out of season. We dare not offer any suggestion, as it would be construed as an affront. In the name of the great organisation, they openly plead for what they call "Communal justice" but we have to keep quiet, as it is the leader that could intimate and interpret and none else. They may give directions to set up a Muslim leaguer or a novice of their rank. Nobody dare whisper.

Not a small part of the qualifications for the public life is the power to bear one's misfortune with dignity. The disappointed man must be first to congratuate his successful rival. The excluded office seeker must go about with the air of having expected nothing and if he is wise, be exceptionally careful in supporting his part as least for a time. Many an excellent man ruined himself by displaying his wounds or endeavouring to retaliate by ineffective pin-pricks. A Subhas Chandra Bose or a Rajagopalachari may have his tit for tat, but an ordinary man must smile and look pleased.

Another of the difficulties of public life is that a man's real competitors are not his opponents, but his friends.

Compared with other careers, the political is liable to an immense number of unforeseen chances and mishaps. A man may lose his seat just at the most critical moment in his career and be thrown out of public life for a long time, in which he may be almost forgotten. Unless he is one of the few who have a public behind them, he will be extraordinarily at the mercy of the individual fancies and preferences of the great man whose favour is indispensable.

Character also counts in public life. Politicians can no longer rail off one-half

of their existence and call it their private life, with which the public has no concern. The picture of the public man, which is formed in the public eye, is built of thousands of little details which may have nothing to do with his political action. He chooses voluntarily the life of publicity and he cannot escape its liabilities. Public life requires sacrifice of privacy and convenience.

To make a success in public life, one needs capacity, industry, character, a moderate degree of backing and a little luck. But it is understood that the politicians are in chains to the party bosses. They have to be consulted about everything, as otherwise one would not be allowed to come back to the Legislature. One has to get on with all sorts of queer characters. Even otherwise there is no security of term for men of proved ability and experience under the present system of voting. Baldwin could not secure a seat for Mr. McKenna when he wished him to be the Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1922. In 1933, Macdonald could not find a seat for his Solicitor-General. The Liberals could not gaurantee a seat to Sir Donald Maclean. One of our own ministers could not succeed in the first election.

Thus in some cases men of proved ability would not like to enter the public life, as they would least like to dance to the changing public opinion; some others, even though they like, would not easily come in, due to public eccentricity; yet in other cases even though they get in, they will be the tools in the hands of mediocres, who would boss the show. Thus intelligence and experience would be at a discount. This will be ruinous in public life.

A man must vote with his party and stifle his conscience if it tells him that he is doing wrong. He may have to put up with the tyranny of the party machine, the corruption of the bosses, the evils of the spoils system and honours system, etc. If his triumphs are great, his disasters are in the same scale, and the same enormous publicity attends his downfall as his exaltation. His struggle to win power is long and arduous and his enjoyment of it brief and precarious, and not seldom he has to depart from the scene when his fortunes are at their lowest. It is said that the public men are never really in favour with the public except for a short period before they are returned to power. When that summit is gained, the reaction sets in and he almost immediately finds himself battling with hostile currents which will finally submerge him.

Hence the paradoxical conclusion that Government hardly ever, and oppositions almost always, represent the majority in the country, and that a minister is never so little, in favour, as when he is in power. The fatigue of it, the wearisome publicity, the increasing controversy, the stumping and electioneering, the heavy penalties for slight mistakes, the inherent friction with friends, the intrusions on their privacy and reflection on their character —these certainly make a man disheartened and not a few have died young or retired broken men. With all these liabilities, the public life is still the most envied of the careers. It alone carries with it what is called power, fame and greatness. But alas, lucky are the few who attain them!

INDIAN ECONOMIC PROBLEMS*

By Sir MANILAL B. NANAVATI

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THE basic weakness of our economic system manifests itself in increasing population, an uneconomic land system which includes increasing landlordism, the declining size of holdings with their growing sub division and fragmentation, decreasing productivity of land and low incomes, the chronic indebtedness of the peasantry, the decay of rural industries, the comparative backwardness of large-scale industries, lack of heavy capital goods and key industries, etc. . . .

The war aggravated these weaknesses. The stoppage of imports, the increase in exports, the larger *consumption in India by the* troops, prisoners of war, by evacuees and by people engaged in heavy war work, all these increased the pressure on our limited stocks. The continued inflation of currency in spite of warnings and protests from different parts of the country has undermined the purchasing power of the poorer section of the community and aggravated the mal-distribution of wealth, so that the process of the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer has been accelerated by the war. The Government of India somehow failed to understand the true significance of all these forces and let matters drift for too long a time. The efforts to "grow more food" have not yielded the results expected, and it is only when the situation is nothing less than desperate that the Foodgrains Policy Committee has recommended a small import of 1 million tons of foodstuffs, while the fact is that we have a deficiency of at least 5 to 10 million tons of food and the prices have reached so high that they are beyond the buying capacity of the small cultivator, the landless labourer and the lower middle classes whose wages and incomes have not risen correspondingly. . . .

So far our administrative machinery has failed and the co operation of the people with the Government in this crisis is, to say the least, inadequate. India presents before the world a very sorry spectacle of a rich country with poorly developed and inefficiently organised economy. The rise in population as indicated by the last few censuses was at one time hailed as a sign of the fulfilment of the British Rule in India but this self-delusion has been exposed, and at a terrible cost, too. The problem is, therefore, not only to import sufficiently large quantities of foodgrains to be able to restore confidence among the population but also to make the same available to them at prices within their reach in the immediate future and to plan on a comprehensive basis for a long run. . .

What is wanted, first of all, is therefore a change in outlook, a new orientation of policy and a new drive to reach the farthest village and the lowest strata of the people. This means that the initiative must come from the Government of India who alone can afford to employ the best experts and *to find the larger funds* necessary for research and reconstruction. . . .

The most urgent problem for India is to increase the productive capacity of the country. For that purpose, we have to deal with the enormous problem of the already existing large surplus of population on the land. This surplus has been estimated at about 30 per cent. of the

*From a paper on Agricultural Economics.

population now subsisting on the land. As our population increases and the process of de-industrialisation continues, this problem becomes more and more acute as large-scale industries fail to absorb the increasing numbers and the small-scale rural industries continue to decline and decay. The result is too much pressure on the land, uneconomic cultivation, rural indebtedness and a de-vitalisation of the rural poulation. In order to solve this problem, it is necessary to bring more land under cultivation by making use of as much as possible of the 110 million acres of area classified as cultivable waste other than fallow. A large capital expenditure will undoubtedly be necessary before these lands can be reclaimed, cleared and made fit for human habitation. It is for the State to devise a scheme which would answer these needs. Possibly the use of the demobilised soldiers after the war affords the best opportunity to launch land reclamation schemes with army machinery, so that these soldiers and others may be settled on lands so recovered. On the whole, however, the scope for extensive cultivation in this country is limited, for much of the area which is at present fallow may not be really suitable for cultivation. It could be possible if all the processing of agricultural products is done on the farm itself and if the purchasing power of the rural masses is increased through rural industries to create a much larger scope for employment in the villages than we have at present. The development of large-scale industries can open numerous avenues for employment in the towns for suitable classes and although the total employment we can thus create may appear small as compared to the numbers to be employed, it is improper to ignore the fact that the process of industrial growth is cumulative and as it proceeds, it creates new avenues of employment which were not originally dreamt of. In the main, however, we must rely on small and medium-scale industries in the towns and throughout the rural areas to absorb the surplus population on the land and also the new entrants into industry as a result of the increase of population. India's resources are vast. We have hardly begun to exploit them on a systematic scale. There is a vast amount of work to be done by way of engineering, housing, sanitation, social services, etc., all over the country and if only we devise a proper plan, we could find employment for our enormous human resources.

OUR NATIONAL FLAG SONG

BY Mr. J. G. KARANDIKAR, B.A., B.T.

OUR National Flag song is on a par with national song. The implications of our national song have been already placed before the readers of the *Indian Review* (August issue, 1939). Every civilized country has its national song, so, it has its flag song. Both of them exert the same influence in awakening the national sentiment. At times the national flag itself serves as one of the most powerful sources in the composition of national songs. "The star-spangled Banner", which is the national song of U.S.A., can be cited as an illustration in this respect. Francis Scott Key, an American statesman and attorney, was

once held overnight during the action of bombardment by the enemy. In the morning when he saw the American flag still flying, he was inspired by the intense feelings of that hour and wrote the first national song of U.S.A.—"The star-spangled Banner." National flag has thus a close relation with national song, for it finds an expression of its influence in the latter.

The rising generation has to maintain unsullied the honour and prestige of the flag that was unfurled and kept aloft by their illustrious ancestors. Under it rallied round the Motherland's sons and daughters with single-hearted devotion to her cause and determined not to be parted either in weal or in woe. There is no room for factions; for all are striving to achieve the common goal. The flag is indicative of and inspires the supreme ideal of unity, peace and prosperity for the nation. It cannot but be a symbol of the aspirations and feelings of an awakened nation. The flag songs thus naturally form part of patriotic literature and hence it is intended in this article to give a brief outline of our national flag songs.

From very ancient times the people of this country have been familar with the flag made of red ochre colour, or popularly known as the Bhagawa flag. This is the colour of Tyaga—Renunciation, self-sacrifice—which is the only panacea for all evil forces of disruption, hatred and tyranny. In Tyaga lies the seed of freedom. This Bhagawa flag with religious sanctity about it for hundreds of years past was also the national flag of the Mahrattas and in this capacity it held its unabated away till their mighty empire came to a close

This does not, however, imply that this Bhagawa flag has since then been discarded. Far from it. It does occupy a distinct and exalted position even at the present day; and the All-India Hindu Mahasabha in its 18th session held at Lahore in 1936 has recognised this flag as the national flag of Hindusthan with the inclusion of Kundalini, Swastik and Kripan (sword of the Sikhs), as representing spiritual bliss, peace and material prosperity. The idea of rejuvenating the flag in its modern form originated with Barrister Savarkar. Himself a man of wonderful poetic genius, he has composed a flag song called the victorious flag, which thrills with vigour from beginning to end. In it he recalls the glory of this land over which the banner was raised high and upheld right up from the times of Shri Ramachandra and Chandragupta down to the days of the Peshwas. He makes a stirring appeal to the people of Hindusthan to uplift and unfurl it once again and under its shelter to struggle for their emancipation.

Side by side with this Bhagawa flag, there arose into prominence in this country the tri-colour flag of the Indian National Congress. With the advent of British rule in India, new and varied forces came into the Congress fold to be welded in common understanding and in harmony of thought and action. Their new outlook gave rise to the idea of a tri-colour flag. This flag with three colours marked on it is perhaps after the model of the tri-colour national flag of France though the colours on the latter are not identical with those on the Congress flag. This new tri colour flag was regarded as the symbol of unity in diversity. The Hindus were represented

by crimson, the Muhammadans by green and other communities together by white stripe on the flag. Senapati P. M. Bapat, an ardent nationalist and a poet, testifies to this fact in his song—"The new Banner of Hind." "Let us", he says in it, "be bound under it, in fraternal unity with the purpose of laying the foundation of democracy or "Lokashahi"-with the result that the whole world will feel reverence for it." He then sings of the implications of the three stripes with different colours, which symbolise the Hindus, the Muhammadans and the rest. The song was composed about twenty-five years ago, but in course of time the principle of determining the colours on the basis of communities was given up, in favour of a broader interpretation. The colours no longer were to represent any communal aspect; they were to have purely qualitative aspect. In the light of the recommendations made by the National Flag Committee it was resolved in 1931 by the All-India. Congress Committee that the crimson stripe on the flag was the emblem of courage and self-sacrifice, the green one was that of valour and devotion and the white stripe represented peace and truth. It was at this time that a picture of the spinning wheel was drawn in deep blue in the middle of the flag and it was regarded as the ray of hope for the poor. This tri-colour flag in its renovated garb was publicly unfurled on 30th August, 1931.

Senapati Bapat has composed his flag song in Marathi. There are also some excellent flag songs in Gujarathi and Hindi, as they are in Marathi. Snehrashmi, an eminent Gujarathi poet, sings of the glory of the tri-coloured flag. To him it is "the dispenser of India's destiny" and the precursor of India's freedom. It inspires us with a new life; it fills our hearts with devotion and animates us with valour. We heartily bow to it. It is raised high up in the sky and the whole atmosphere is exhilarated with the hymns of liberty. In its shade we are vomiting the poison that was tormenting us for years and now with renewed vigour we are prepared to face the odds, howsoever terrible they may be. We will never retrace our steps. We will march on with undaunted courage. To the down-trodden and the depressed the flag is the main-spring of hope and relief; so we are bent upon achieving salvation, beneath the unfurled banner.

The Tri-coloured Flag Song or "The Zenda-Geeta" is a Hindi song composed by Shyamlal Gupta, an earnest political worker endowed with the vision of a poet and philosopher. As a flag song its popularity is as immense as that of Bande Mataram, the national song of India. The enchanting and melodious notes of this celebrated flag song elevate the audience to sublime thoughts. In it the poet avows that this victorious tri-colour flag shall be held high. This banner is a source of perennial strength and love. It is a fountain of joy to the heroes of the land. It appeals to them to dedicate their body, mind and soul—to the cause of their Motherland's freedom. Under its kind protection all their fears and worries are done away with. Under it they stand fearless, with an unshakable resolve to win freedom. Its glory is beyond description. It cannot be comprehended even with the sacrifice of life.

This is the message of the two main flags of India, namely, the Bhagawa Flag and the Tri-colour Flag. They are like the Ganges and the Jumna that carry their "sweet mercy" day and night. The pleasure of a dip in either is the same. We cannot overlook one at the cost of the other; for, both have a place

in national psychology, both have made history and above all both of them convey to the masses the same message of happiness, peace and freedom for all. But we cannot help referring to a still third flag which, though not so outstanding as the other two, is capable of exercising potential influence. The story of this Indian National Flag was shrouded in mystery for about three decades of this century. Curiously enough, the birthplace of this flag was not India but a foreign land. We mean the Flag led by the Indian revolutionaries in Europe. It was for the first time in the year 1908, publicly demonstrated as India's National Flag, by Madam Cama, a Parsi lady, who sympathised with India's aspirations. It was the occasion of a meeting of Socialists at Stuttgart (in Germany). The flag was prepared by a Bengali revolutionary and painter by name Hemachandra Das. It bears at the top a design containing eight lotuses indicative of eight provinces in India. Moreover, the lotus is an emblem of purity. In the middle of the flag the letters "Bande Mataram" are drawn in Devanagari script and below them there is another design containing the pictures of the sun and the moon, as representing prosperity and peace, duty and eternity. Bande Mataram; the title of our National Song, written on it, is the symbol of devotion. With this banner raised by her side, she appealed to all lovers of freedom all over the world "to co operate in freeing from slavery the fifth of the whole human race". In the year 1937, that is, after a lapse of about 30 years, the flag was sent to India by Mr. Ranaji, a friend of Madam Cama. The entry of this flag into this country is an outcome of the efforts of Barrister Savarkar and Mr. G. V. Ketkar, Editor of the *Mahratta*. An excellent ballad eulogising the glory of this flag is composed by Govindswami Aphale.

By way of comparative survey, mention may be made here of some of the prominent songs of foreign countries. "The Star spangled Banner" composed by Francis Scott Key is already referred to. It is the first Flag Song as well as the first National Song of the United States of America. In it the poet says that it waves in triumph "over the land of the free, and the home of the brave." England's spirited flag songs are, "the Flag" composed by Mr. Rachel Henslowe and "Liberal Song of Victory" by Mr. E. H. Jeffs. In these simple yet brilliant songs, the poets sound the clarion call of the nation's Freedom and Victory, and glory. Jeneval, the author of Belgium's Song The Brabanconne, sings of their ancient standard which stands for "King and Law and Liberty." Besides these and other national flag songs, there are international flag songs, for instance, "Lift up the People's Banner" by Joseph Whittaker, and "The Red Flag" by E. J. Connell, But these also, like the national flag songs, aim at the amelioration of the sufferings of the oppressed, protection of the weak and at freedom from bondage. The fundamental basis for national as well as international songs is the same though the structures built upon them differ in size. The international flag songs, irrespective of any nationality, rise to the dizzy heights of cosmopolitanism and consider the whole world to be a fraternity in which the oppressed and the down-trodden are with one mind getting rid of their shackles, throughout the world wherever they live.

A comparison between India's flag songs and those of other countries reveals to us a gratifying similarity in their train of thoughts. We also realize how from very ancient times the national flag has been universally recognized as the simplest yet the most effective and tangible device for the manifestation of national feelings. No other concrete device is found to have a greater hold on the masses in maintaining their courage in times of acute reverses. They rally under it and guard it as their sacred trust. The lowering of the flag is a foreboding of evil—of loss of national honour and prestige. On the other hand, the upholding of the flag signifies the glory of the nation.

Thus in brief is the survey of our flag songs. It is hoped that it will create among the readers a desire to study and appreciate the songs in their original as they, like the national songs, form the very breath of our patriotic literature.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

TALKING TO INDIA: George Allen and Unwin, Ltd., London. 7s. 6d. net.

This is a collection of broadcast talks addressed specially to the Indian people. What with E. M. Foster on "Edward Gibbon", George Oswell on "The Re-discovery of Europe" and Wickham Steed on "The Press", they read extremely well indeed. Surprisingly enough, the collection includes a verbatim transcript of a broadcast by Subhas Chandra Bose from Berlin—a typical example of Axis propaganda to India. Evidently the publishers hold that the absurdity of Subhas Bose's specious pleas on behalf of Japan and Germany must carry its own condemnation. In this they are wise, for Subhas only manages to make a ludicrous exhibition of his perversity. But it carries a lesson with it; if Britain should justify her interest in India, her methods must be above reproach; they must be completely free from the taint of domination or exploitation which are the obnoxious features of Axis rule over conquered countries.

One of the talks provides a caustic commentary on the action of the Government of India in interning the Congress leaders and Mr. Amery's repeated justification of malignant propaganda against the defenceless prisoners. For the talk made as long ago as 1942 fully exploits the opposition of Gandhi and Nehru to Fascism. It was just the time when the Jap menace was acute. The B. B. C. spokesman truly observed:

> Very much, therefore, turns upon Indian popular support and the efforts of Nehru may turn out to be a thorn in the Japanese side. There is no doubt that the Axis propagandists are well aware that Mr. Nehru, Mr. Azad and the other leading Congress personalities are heart and soul against them and it will not be long before they once again begin libelling them as the agents of British Imperialism.

As it unfortunately turned out, it was the British Press and propaganda machines, says a shrewd observer, which soon after began suggesting that these very men who were "heart and soul" against the Axis Powers in April when Japan's menace was greatest who suddenly turned pro-Japanese when this menace had declined and Allied victory became more hopeful!

PAKISTAN AND NATIONAL UNITY. Edited by G. Adhikari. People's Publishing House, Bombay 4.

This book outlines the Communist's solution to the problem of Indian Unity. In times like this one welcomes any attempt to provide a solution for the major problem of India, but it is doubtful if Comrade Adhikari tells anything new or takes us anywhere nearer to the solution. He seeks to justify the Pakistan demand *a la* the Soviet method of providing autonomy for the several *nationalities*. Com. Adhikari emphasises his opinion that the conceding of Pakistan by people like Sjt. Rajagopalachari on grounds of political expediency without any real faith in the claim of the several *nationalities* and cultural units in India, to exercise the right of self-determination is a bourgeois approach to the problem and is therefore the wrong approach—which appears to be a distinction without a difference. His solution is the recognition of the inherent right to autonomy of the several language areas is this country and thereby he seeks to satisfy the Muslim League's claim to Pakistan, a claim which is based not on language but on religious affinity. While it is doubtful if the metaphysics of this philosophy of self-determination will stand scrutiny, it is equally doubtful if the Russian analogy has any validity in this instance, considering that in the case of Russia the decision to concede this right of self-determination was entirely in the hands of a supreme Dictator, *i.e.*, Lenin, a circumstance that finds no parallel in India today.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF THE MEDIAEVAL BENGALI EPICS. By A. Bhattacharyya, M A. *University of Dacca*—Book House, Calcutta.

This book deals with the narrative poetical literature of Mediæval Bengal, only loosely termed epic. The author shows how a study of the Mangal Kavyas reveals the merging of the Brahmanistic faith into the popular creeds of the country in Bengali environment and the glorification of the popular deities of the Sakti cult The *Dharma Mangal Kavyas*, reminiscent of the Buddhists' worship of Dharma, *are peculiarly associated with Radha* (W. Bengal) These *Kavyas* crystallised into a definite form only about the fifteenth century. Even the Vaishnavas were forced by the strength of this element, to stamp their literature with the impress of Sakta influence. The writer does not give the status of an epic to *Chaitanya Bhagavata*, nor to the *Mymensingh Ballads* which are romantic in tone and lyrical in form. Muhammadan *poets had also contributed to the later* epic literature of mediæval Bengal.

"BHASHA". By Mr. Shahid Pravin. Record Publishing Co., Calcutta.

Mr. Churchill advocated in his address to the University of Harvard, the virtues of Basic English. But the linguistic problem confronting India is vastly more difficult There are 179 languages and 544 dialects in this country, and the choice of a common language has already been beset by the most bitter and unreasonable of all passions, the communal and the political. Mr. Pravin recommends, as his solution, the adoption of the Roman script for all the languages, but without the *historical accretion of English phonetics.* "The future generation would be taught the alphabets of their own languages in the same way as they are taught at present, with the difference that the characters would be in another shape." This the author has prepared in a chart showing the adaptation of the common script to the alphabets of the various Indian languages.

The virtues of the Roman script are obvious, but it is strange it should be regarded as equivalent to a new language.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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POONA RESIDENCY CORRESPONDENCE Daulat Rao Scindia and North Indian Affairs, Vol VIII Ed by Sir Jadunath Sarkar and Vol. IX by Maharaj Kumar Raghubir Sinh, M A *Govt Central Press*, Bombay.

TOMORROW IS OURS A Novel of the India of Today. By K. Ahmad Abbas. Popular Book Depot, Bombay

THE PAKISTAN ISSUE Being the correspondence between Dr Sayyed Abdul Latif and Jawaharlal Nehru, Sarojini Naidu, Abul Kalam Azad, Dr Rajendra Prasad, M. A. Jinnah, Mahatma Gandhi and connected papers Edited by Nawab Nazir Yar Jang Bahadur, Sh Muhammad Ashraf Kashmiri Bazar, Lahore Rs 3-12

A DIRTY LITTLE REBEL—THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE, LITTLE MAN. Pankul Publishing House, 46, Cowasji Patel Street, Fort, Bombay

INDIAN POLITICS 1936—1942. *Report on the Constitutional Problem in India*, Part II. By R. Coupland Oxford University Press, Bombay.

PROGRESS OF GREATER INDIAN RESEARCH 1917-1942 By U. N. Ghoshal M A., PH.D. Published by Greater India Society, Calcutta. Rs 4.

INDUSTRIALIZATION AND TRADE The changing world Pattern and the position of Britain. By A J Brown. The Royal Institute of International Affairs. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

INDUSTRIES IN BOMBAY CITY, THE RAYON INDUSTRY, AND DISTRICT INDUSTRIALIZATION DRIVE. *All India* Manufacturers' Organization, Bombay.

THE WOMAN UNDER THE HINDU LAW OF MARRIAGE AND SUCCESSION. By Hansa Mehta Pratibha Publications, Bombay

ARYABHIVINAYA. The Sandhya and the Havana English Translation of Swami Dayanand Saraswati. Published by Thakur Datta Sharma, Dhesmath Trust, Lahore.

THE LAW RELATING TO WATER RIGHTS with special reference to the generation of Electric Power—A Record of Proceedings in Periyar Water Rights Dispute By C. R. Pattabhiraman, B A, B L. With Foreword by Sir Maurice Gwyer. Government Press, Trivandrum

FOUNDATIONS OF A SUCCESSFUL CAREER. By K. M. Banerjee With an Introduction by Nalini Ranjan Sarker. Industry Publishers, Ltd, Calcutta.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Lord Wavell's Address to the Legislature

IF with the rest of India we express disappointment at the Viceroy's much expected address to the Central Legislature, it is due in no small measure to the hopes that he himself had done not a little to foster. In his speech at the Pilgrim Luncheon, soon after his appointment, he went out of his way to declare that he fully realized

the great weight of opinion, both here and in India, in favour of loosening as early as possible, the present deadlock.

And then he contented himself with a brief message at the opening of the Central Legislature, deferring the customary address to a later occasion as he had not studied the situation sufficiently to enable him to make any useful contribution to the problem. It was therefore something of a surprise to all concerned that after four months as Viceroy of India, Lord Wavell should have made a speech which in effect leaves the situation, much worse than before. It is not surprising that enlightened opinion, both in England and in India, should call the speech "barren" and purposeless.

The fact is, Lord Wavell has made no new contribution to solve the deadlock. He has merely echoed the story repeated *ad nauseam* by his predecessor and Mr. Amery.

Unless and until some other form of Government can be established with general consent, the present Government of India, mainly an Indian Government, will continue to carry out to the best of its ability—and I am satisfied that it is a very good ability—the primary purposes of any Government—the maintenance of law and order, the duties of internal administration and the preparation for the work ahead at the end of the war.

This is in effect not different from the Maxwell formula of police rule that the King's government must be carried on without reference to the wishes of the people.

Though disappointing, there are elements in the speech that cannot be ignored as altogether unpromising. The portion touching the unity of India will prove a tough poser to Pakistanis. "You cannot alter geography", said Lord Wavell decisively.

His repetition that the Cripps offer stands is an old theme but it is in refreshing contrast to Maxwell's crude hymn of hate. Said His Excellency:

There is an important element which stands aloof. I recognise how much ability and high-mindedness it contains; but I deplore its present policy and methods as barren and unpractical. I should like to have the co-operation of this element in solving the present and future problems of India. . . .

But I see no reason to release those responsible for the declaration of August 8, 1942, until I am convinced that the policy of non-co-operation and even of obstruction has been withdrawn not in sackcloth and ashes—that helps no one—but in recognition of a mistaken and unprofitable policy.

What sort of co-operation does His Excellency desire with this important element indefinitely in jail? In the words of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru:

The consequences of their continued detention without trial must be a perpetuation of dissatisfaction in the country and the feeling that Government are shirking the consequences of an open and impartial trial. Already justice has received many rude shocks and the average man is not prepared to treat executive pronouncements regarding guilt as equivalent to judicial pronouncements by independent judges.

Sir Chimanlal's Call to Government

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, the Liberal leader, cannot be said to be partial to the Congress. He has never hesitated to criticize Congress leaders or Congress methods on many an occasion and has said some hard things about them. He has not spared the Mahatma either. Yet he tells the readers of the *Times of India* that the Congress hold on the people has increased, if anything, by the continued incarceration of the leaders. The belief that Congress representatives being out of power has lessened their hold on the country and that the Congress for the moment is practically dead, he says, is a gross misconception. "I have no doubt in my mind", he declares

that if general elections to the legislatures were held, the Congress would sweep the polls and would acquire greater influence. This is indicated by what is happening at various municipal and local board elections. It is patent, therefore, that it is neither in the interests of the Indian people nor of the British Government that the present deadlock be allowed to continue any longer.

The Increase in Railway Fares

The Railway Estimates presented by Sir Edward Bentball, the War Transport Member, in the Legislative Assembly forecast for 1943-44 a surplus of Rs. 43 *crores (in round figures) and Rs. 52 crores* for 1944-45. But of what avail is all this surplus if rail fares of all classes are to be *increased by 25 per cent. from April 1 next*, "so long as present conditions exist"? We cannot say how long these conditions *will continue, and this abnormal and un*expected increase in train fare, added to the frightfully growing cost of living, will break *the back of the people, already* groaning under the weight of many burdens in the shape of taxation, direct and indirect. *No wonder that members of the Central* Legislature expressed themselves in vehement terms against the increase which *falls so heavily on the whole population*, irrespective of their capacity to bear the burden.

Already the ordeal of railway travel has been increasingly felt owing to terrific congestion and the absence of ordinary amenities which make travel in other countries a pleasure. To increase the fares without affording compensating advantages is to add insult to injury. No doubt the exigencies of war demand a certain amount of sacrifice which the people are ready and willing enough to acquiesce in, but the way that things are managed seems to show the utter callousness with which civil *needs are sacrificed to the so-called military* necessities.

The Transport Member justified the increase in these terms.

> There are three good reasons for increasing fares to-day, the effect that such an increase may have on reducing passenger travel, the deflationary effect owing to the immobilisation of a substantial volume of currency, and the opportunity of taking the first step towards building up a fund for post-war reconstruction purposes.

The whole speech is keyed to this theme. It almost looks as if the Government had *already made up their mind to* increase the fares and subsequently searched for plausible reasons to support it. The idea of deflating inflation in this way is seriously scouted by economists. The dream of post-war amenities can be no substitute for actual present suffering. *As for reducing* passenger traffic, one can only say, it is a piece of cynicism, for the poor do not travel, least of all in India, for the mere pleasure of it. As the *Statesman* put it:

> *To offer such bad service at so high a price will be* an insult even during the war. It brings public service as a whole into bad repute.

The only people who may not feel the strain are the new rich which the war contracts are creating and the State officials *whose expenses are borne by the Treasury.*

No wonder that no less than five cut motions were carried against the Government during the three-day debate on the Railway Budget in the Central Assembly.

Mrs Gandhi's Death

Kasturba's death is the greatest personal loss that Gandhiji has suffered in recent *years since the passing of Mahadev Desai.* But the circumstance of her death while under detention adds to the poignancy of the *grief* with which the whole country has heard the news Her matchless endurance, courage and devotion to Gandhi during these many eventful years of trials and hardship have been the theme of countless tributes. Gandhi himself has made many touching references to her remarkable patience and self-sacrifice. Indeed her whole life was one long epic of service and devotion to Gandhi and the causes he espoused. To millions in India, the passing away of this good "mother"—as she is often addressed—has come with the shock of a family bereavement. Gandhi himself may be able to bear the loss with characteristic resignation, but every Indian heart and the hearts of many outside India go out to him in respectful sympathy at the passing of one who for sixty years had *been his companion* and helpmate sharing his sufferings and ministering to his needs as only a Hindu wife could. Mrs. Gandhi, *though practically* unlettered, knew like Jane Welsh Carlyle, what it is to be the wife of a man of genius, and with child-like *faith trod* by the side of her illustrious husband, with firmness and intrepidity, through all the phases of trouble and exaltation in equal measure.

The Ban on Mrs. Sarojini

Quite as expected, one of the first moves of the non-official members of the Central Legislature, on the opening day of the session was the motion for adjournment of the House in connection with the gagging order on Mrs. Sarojini. It is significant that even in an attenuated house, shorn of its Congress members, the motion was lost by a bare majority of two. The trend of the debate and the nature of the voting definitely show that though the Government scored by a narrow majority, the moral victory lay with the opposition.

Since the arrest and detention of the Congress leaders in August, 1942, there has been a deluge of propaganda, both in this country and abroad, to misrepresent the Congress position in regard to the war and to discredit the Congress leaders. The propaganda has missed fire, particularly because it attempted too much. But it is odd that after all this flood of propaganda, Government should still grudge to give the other side a chance to express its view. The gagging order on Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, forbidding her to communicate with the Press or address any public meeting is an attempt to stifle completely any expression of the only authoritative Congress view of the situation now available. For Mrs. Naidu, as a member of the Working Committtee which took part in the discussions preceding the August debacle, was in a position to impart first-hand impression of the situation. And what after all did she say? There is nothing in what she said which could at all be construed as offending the law or even the Editors' agreement with the Government. There is no incitement to violence or illegal activity, and absolutely nothing to impede war effort. She only supplied facts which definitely proved that the Congress was wholly and irrevocably anti-Axis. Is that a "prejudicial act" for which she must be gagged? The real reason is that she has pricked the bubble of Government propaganda so completely as to put Government absolutely in the wrong in the eyes of impartial observers.

The Central Budget

Introducing the Central Budget for 1944-45 in the Central Assembly, the Finance Member disclosed a revenue deficit of Rs. 92·43 crores for the current year and a prospective deficit of Rs. 78·21 crores next year on the basis of existing taxation.

The Finance Member announced the following proposals for new taxation, which are expected to yield Rs. 28¼ crores:

He proposed three new excise duties to be levied, namely, on tea, coffee and betel-nuts at two annas a pound.

The existing emergency surcharge of 20 per cent. on Customs Duties will continue for another year. In the case of tobacco and spirits, the surcharge will be increased from 1/5th to ½.

Tobacco excise is being increased to yield ten crores of additional revenue.

Under Income-tax relief is proposed to be given to persons whose incomes are below Rs. 2,000 by raising the taxable minimum from Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000.

There will be no change in existing incidence on incomes upto Rs. 10,000 but on the slab from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000 the central surcharge is to be increased by two pies from 16 to 18 pies over the basic rate of 24 pies; and on the balance above Rs. 15,000, surcharge will be increased by four pies from 20 to 24 pies over the basic rate of 30 pies. This latter rate will apply to companies and in every case where the tax is to be charged at the maximum rate.

Under proposals for compulsory deposits is a provision for a pay-as-you-earn scheme under which an assessee has the option to pay income-tax in advance quarterly, such advance payments carrying 2 per cent. interest.

Under Super-tax there will be an increase of half an anna in the central surcharge on slabs between Rs. 35,000, and Rs. 2 lakhs.

The total estimated revenue from the new proposals will reduce the prospective revenue deficit from Rs. 78·21 crores to Rs. 54·71 crores.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Mr. Churchill's Review of the War

ADDRESSING the House of Commons on February 22, Mr. Churchill expressed confidence in final victory for the Allies.

The whole of the air offensive constitutes the foundation on which our plans for an overseas invasion stand The idea that we should fetter or further restrict the use of this prime instrument of war will not be accepted by the Governments of the Allied nations

Discussing the Russo-Polish situation, Mr. Churchill said.

I have intense sympathy for the Poles—but I also have sympathy for the Russian viewpoint I cannot feel that the Russian demand for reassurances about her western frontiers goes beyond the limits of the reasonable or the just. Marshal Stalin and I are agreed upon the need for Poland to obtain compensation at the expense of Germany both in the North and the West.

Speaking of the battle in Italy, he declared

Leaders are confident of final success I can say no more than what I have said, for I would not attempt to venture on over confident prediction, but our leaders are confident and the troops are in the highest spirit of offensive vigour

After explaining what "unconditional surrender" meant in reference to Germany, Mr. Churchill expressed the hope "that the generous instincts of unity will not depart from us in these times".

The Burma Campaign

Indian and British forces of the 14th Army have inflicted a major defeat on the Japanese in the Arakan. This is the result of the operations which have been in progress in the heat and dust of the jungle from the first week of last month. It is announced that the big Japanese force of about 8,000, which sought to cut the 14th Army's communications, and destroy them by an enveloping movement, has itself been largely destroyed. About 1,500 dead Japanese have been collected and buried, representing about a quarter of the flanking force, and the number of their wounded may reasonably be taken to be twice the number of their dead. Only two small parties of any significance, totalling a few hundreds, are now left to be dealt with. When they are eliminated, enemy casualties will swell. Our casualties have been relatively light.

Russian Successes

For more than a year the Red Army has been conducting a successful offensive, routing armies of the German invaders and sweeping them out of the Soviet land, observes Marshal Stalin in an Order of the Day issued on the eve of the Anniversary of the Red Army.

The Red Army has fought its way forward 1,700 kilometres (about 1,020 miles) at some points and cleared the enemy from nearly three fourths of occupied Soviet soil.

In three months of the winter campaign our valiant troops have won the greatest of victories on the right bank of the Dnieper, completed the liberation of the Kiev, Dnepropetrovsk and Zaporozhe regions, liberated the whole of the Zitomir region, practically the whole of the Rovno and Kirovograd regions and several districts of the Vinnitsa, Nikolayev, Kamenets Podolsky and Volyhny regions

A great victory was won by Soviet troops at Leningrad which completely freed the city from the enemy's blockade and barbaric shelling. Soviet fighting men are completing the liberation from the Fascist monsters of the Leningrad and Kalinin regions

In the unfavourable conditions of the current winter, our troops have cleared the invaders from about 200,000 sq kilometres (125,000 sq miles) of Soviet soil The Red Army has reconquered from the enemy more than 13,000 inhabited localities, including 82 towns and 320 railway stations

It must be now clear to every one that Hitlerite Germany is moving relentlessly towards a catastrophe

New Zealand and Statute of Westminster

Speaking at the opening of the twenty-seventh New Zealand Parliament at Wellington, on February 23, the Prime Minister, Mr. Peter Fraser, intimated that the question of adoption of the Statute of Westminster will be submitted to Parliament by the Government. The enactment of the Statute by New Zealand would remove doubts in the eyes of the foreign Powers about the sovereign status of New Zealand and would also have the practical effect of removing the existing legal conscription and administrative difficulties in New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

BIRTH-PLACE OF THE EMPIRE

One of the monuments that attracted the attention of the Governor of Bombay during his recent tour of Gujarat was the "old English Factory" at Surat.

Despite being told, writes Mr. H. D. Mistry in *Blitz*, that the place is an old, dilapidated building situated in an unwholesome corner of the city of Surat, and occupied by an old woman, "His Excellency" and Lady Colville insisted on visiting the place.

The building, which has been known for centuries as the "Old English Factory" at Surat and which in itself forms part of the original English Factory at Surat built in 1618, stands as an old, forgotten monument. It is the building where early *English traders*, under the East India Company traded.

This Old English Factory at Surat is now the private property of the well-known Indian *family of Cooper. It has* been so since 1878.

Lord Curzon, Lord Kitchener, Lord Reay, Lord Sandhurst, Lord Lamington, Lord Willingdon, are a few of the celebrities, who have visited this monument before.

On entering the building, the Governor read out loudly the inscription upon a tablet placed at the front door.

The English Factory originally built in A.D. 1618, under a treaty made with Prince Khurram (Shah Jehan), son of the Emperor Jehangir through the ambassador Sir Thomas Roe, it withstood a siege by the Marathas under Shivaji in A.D. 1664, and was again attacked by the Marathas in A.D. 1703. *It ceased to be used for its original purpose after* Surat was annexed by the British in A.D. 1800.

After Sir John finished reading the inscription, the party went up the steps, stood on the upper gallery, walked on to the verandah, entered the Central Hall, crossed the partition and went to the last big room overlooking River Tapti.

"What nice, cool, big, airy rooms," said Lady *Colville.* "*How nice to stand in the building* where our forefathers stayed three centuries ago," joined in Sir John.

On leaving the place, Lady Colville said, "Of all the places we have visited, we found this ancient monument the best and *most interesting.*"

SIKHS AND HINDUISM

A *controversy has gone on for some* time past whether the Sikhs can be called Hindus. The true relations of Sikhism to Hinduism is set forth in a recent article in the *Triveni* in which Prof. Pritam Singh holds that

Sikhs are reformed Hindus . . . As a matter of fact Sikh reform, as inaugurated by Guru Nanak, was a replica of the Bhakti movement sponsored by the medieval saints like Ramanuja, Kabir and others *Granth Sahib* also contains the hymns of Jaidev, Namdev, Ramdas, Pipa, Sadna and Farid. The sacred books of the Hindus are mentioned in the *Granth Sahib.* . . . As a matter of fact, the Sikh scriptures reinterpret the Hindu sacred books in the popular *language of the people of those* days. Dr Banerjee says, "It appears that there is no satisfactory evidence to contend that Guru Nanak denounced almost everything that he had found in existence, and that it was his object to build an entirely novel structure on the ruins of the old. (*Evolution of the Khalsa.*")

The writer dismisses the story of Guru Nanak's visit to Baghdad and Mecca as unhistorical. The third Guru Amar Das visited Kurukshetra and Hardwar, and at the time of his passing away, instructed his disciples to perform Hindu rites.

In *Japji* of Guru Nanak we read: "The Guru is Shiva, the Guru is Vishnu and Brahma; the Guru is Parbati, Lakshmi and Saraswati." (*Japji V*) . . . There is the belief in the doctrine of transmigration. . . . Monotheism and pantheism merge into the Sikh movement as they do in Hinduism. . . . We are, therefore, Hindus and will always remain Hindus. . . .

The Hindus are ready to recognise all those as Hindus who call themselves so, and these latter are doubly welcome when they swear by the Hindu scriptures and stand by the Indian culture.

AMERICA AND INDIA

Miss Elsie Weil, the Managing Editor of *Asia and the Americas*, writing in the *monthly*, urging Americans to contribute to Indian famine relief, says: "All the grim and tragic aftermath of the famine is a humanitarian challenge as well. Countless American troops *are now in* India. How Indians feel towards us now and after the war will be judged on the basis of our active and vital friendship and not by empty speeches and flourishes when they need help."

THE BENGAL FAMINE

The ugly fact about the Bengal famine, writes *Observer*, London, is that it should never have happened. The Burmese rice lost by the Japanese advance is less than a twentieth of all India's rice consumption. No reserves had been built up. Inevitably, there was individual hoarding against shortage and famine prices, and the proper technique of opening hoards by causing prices to fall in anticipation of imports (hindered, of course, by the inflow of money for war finance coupled with scarcity of all civil goods) was left to be discovered by the recent Committee of Inquiry.

Indignant denunciation of black market merchants was in order, but buttered no parsnips and produced no grain, rice, or wheat. Indian distrust of British administration and British importers deepened. The same cross-purposes that wrecked the Cripps Mission last year have bedevilled famine measures.

Now the goods are being delivered. Wheat is on its way overseas to tide over until the next rice harvest. But the *damage has been done, the credit* lost, the old story repeated—Indians intransigent, suspicious, unreasonable, Britons slow, ponderous, ineffective. Lord Wavell has a heroic part to play on this stage

SOUTH INDIAN ESTATES

The sale of British-owned rubber plantations in South India to local Indian syndicates is still going on, writes the *Manchester Guardian* financial editor.

It seems to suit both sides very well. In view of the uncertain prospects of the rubber industry after the war, some *shareholders in this country* consider the prices offered attractive for the estates, which are not very productive and have high working costs. On the other hand, Indian friends tell us they risk little as they can probably work the plantations more cheaply and would be able to change over to other products if rubber growing ceased to pay.

Land in crowded South India has, moreover, a permanent capital value if the *money incomes fails for a few years.*

The Teekoy Rubber Estate, Limited, has accepted an offer of £150,000 for its property in Travancore. The concern has an issued capital of £ 74,000: the shareholders will thus receive more than £ 2 per share in repayment.

The estate consists of 1,752 acres, of which 1,379 acres are planted and 1,213 acres mature. The capital is equal to £54 per acre and the purchase price amounts to over £ 100 per acre, a good price for an "area yielding not much over 400 lb to an acre and with a rather high production cost.

In a circular letter to shareholders, the Directors point out that much money has been spent on property from revenue, apart from the dividends which averaged 7½ per cent. over 27 years. They point out to the uncertainties of the political situation and rise in local taxation as reasons for the sale.

One might add that the competitive position of natural as well as synthetic rubber is still *undecided, but that low yielding areas and high* cost producers will certainly have little chance of survival after the first post-war demands are satisfied. This is made certain by the abandonment of the rubber restriction scheme.

ECONOMICS OF PAKISTAN

If Pakistan were established, India would cease to be one of the greatest internal free trade areas of the world. This conclusion is reached by *Indian Affairs,* published by the India-Burma Association, in an article on the economic implications of Pakistan.

The article points out that the Punjab is the least developed industrially of all the major provinces in India, less developed even than the Central Provinces, which has big cotton mills and very important manganese and less important coal mines.

There can be little doubt that the new rulers of Pakistan would regard this as a reproach to be met by high protective duties in certain directions.

Pointing out the responsibilities of a Pakistan State for defence, the article says, "Punjabis, who have *till* now formed the backbone of the Indian Army will no *longer be soldiers in* that army but in the army—if any—of Pakistan.

That *means their* pay and pensions will have to be paid by Pakistan and not from the revenues of all India. Much of their pay in peace time is spent within the Province as are all pensions and even in war time there must be large remittances home This *very valuable source of income from* outside must entirely cease with the creation of Pakistan and one cannot but feel that its cessation is bound to have a serious effect in lowering the standard of living in the Province where it has for a long time past been higher *than in any* part of India.

SOVIET REFORMS

The exact purpose of the Soviet proposal is not yet very clear, says the *Economist*, but it may be taken for granted that Marshal Stalin is not interested in any real dispersion of his present central control. One must distinguish between constitutional forms and realities.

There are probably many reasons for the present proposal. One, though probably quite minor is, to stake the claim for representation at future international gatherings at least equal to the British Commonwealth.

Another is to secure some administrative devolution of the execution of foreign policy.

The U.S.S.R. has immensely long frontiers with a great number and variety of other states, in these conditions problems can be both local and international.

Another purpose is probably to smooth the path for acceptance by the outside world of incorporation within the U.S.S.R. of territories which did not belong to it in 1938.

But the journal does not think the reasons include a desire to permit sixteen Republics to act in any important matter against the Kremlin's wishes: thus decentralisation would involve, so to speak tactics of military or foreign policy, while strategy for the whole Union will be decided centrally, whereas it is precisely in matters of grand strategy that the Canadian Prime Minister claims the fullest freedom of action.

Marshal Stalin and Mr. Molotov have their eye on realities. Their sixteen Republics will hang together for reasons invisible to the constitutional lawyer. It would be the height of foolishness to deny ourselves what the Russians will certainly enjoy. Where association is truly free and good neighbourly and where members are champions of a world order, it can surely do nothing but good.

MARTIAL TRADITION IN INDIA

In the *Modern Review*, Sir Jadunath Sarkar contributes an article on "India's Military Decline in the 18th Century." He says:

In the second half of the 18th century it became the rage of the Indian Rajahs and Nabobs to maintain European-trained sepoys of their own in addition to hiring private European military adventurers and white deserters from the East India Company's army and thus forming a Feringi company, especially of artillery. Each defeat of the old system only enhanced the prestige of the new. The most extensive and effective use of such European trainers and separate corps was made by Mahadji Sindhia and Daulat Rao Sindhia and Tipu Sultan, and to a lesser extent and much later by Holkar. Such forces in the services of the Peshwa and the Rajput Rajahs were negligible in number and practically worthless in the field. Before the Treaty of Paris (1763) disarmed the French in India, the European auxiliaries hired by the Indian princes were the regular troops of the English and French East India Companies and they fought as subsidised allies and not as servants of the Indian Powers. After 1763, the only European soldiers in Indian services were private military adventurers.

The rock on which the modernised army of the Indian States in the 18th century broke down, was the lack of Indian officers of sufficient education and experience in training the men and using modern tactics in battles. Except for the Brahman caste (and a very few Prabhus) among the Marathas, all over Hindu military officers were illiterate and they prided themselves on this defect! Hence, they could learn nothing from books, nor increase their knowledge from the results of Europe's advance in science and the thoughts of the masters of the military art there. The best Indian officers of our Rajahs' drilled sepoy battalions in the 18th century were but imitations of the European officers under whom they had served,—such as as Ibrahim Khan Garde, an ex-captain of Bussy's army,—and usually deserting black captains from the English or French Company's army in India. A very large proportion of the foreign officers in Indian State armies were not pure Europeans by birth, and very few of them had exercised even the lowest command in any army in Europe. In fact outside the British Indian army, the sepoy battalions were commanded mostly by men of mixed Indo-European parentage from Goa or Pondicherry, and even by pure Indian Christians from the Portuguese colony. These men may have had some European blood, and something of the European spirit, but were without a tincture of European education, and indeed of any education worth mention.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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Feb. 1. Earthquake in Turkey destroys a whole town.

—Sir B. N. Rau appointed Prime Minister of Kashmir.

Feb 2. R. A F. raids Berlin.

—Fighting begins in Dalmatia.

Feb. 3. German counter-offensive

—Street fighting in Cassino.

—Changes in Soviet constitution announced.

Feb. 4. Marshal Rommel is reported to be directing German strategy in Italy.

—Air raid on Vizag area

Feb. 5. Enemy plane over Orissa.

—U. S. success in the Marshalls.

Feb 6 Christian Council demands release of leaders and formation of National Government.

Feb. 7. Central Assembly session begins.

—Quake tragedy again in Turkey.

Feb. 8. Financial agreement signed between British Government and the Free French Committee.

—Enemy air-craft over Ceylon

Feb. 9. In the Central Assembly a resolution on the release of politicals is lost without a division.

Feb. 10. Merger of States Bill to be introduced in Parliament is published.

Feb. 11. Pandit Malaviya's move to summon a Leaders' Conference.

Feb. 12. Desperate battle on Anzid Beach for capture of Rome.

Feb. 13. W. C. Bonnerji centenary celebration in Calcutta.

—*Pravda* attacks emigre Polish Government in London.

Feb. 14. Luga, eighty miles south of Leningrad, is captured by Soviet forces.

Feb. 15. Allied success in Arakan.

—Allied forces occupy two islands in S. W. Pacific.

Feb. 16. Railway Budget discloses 25 per cent. increase in fares which is meeting with strong opposition.

Feb. 17. The Viceroy addresses the Central Legislature, explaining Government's attitude to the deadlock.

Feb. 18. H. E. The Viceroy and Lady Wavell arrive in Madras.



His Excellency Lord WAVELL

Feb. 19. Stalin expounds his aims—no intention to expand into Central or Western Europe.

Feb. 20. Natal Indian Conference meets at Durban.

Feb. 21 Germans pushed back at Arazio.

Feb. 22 Mrs. Gandhi passes away.

Feb. 23 Natal judge upholds Indians' claim to practise as Attorney.

Feb. 24. Assembly protests against increase in Rail fares and carries a cut motion by 51 to 46.

Feb. 25 Russians invite Finnish Political and military delegation to Moscow.

Feb. 26. Russo-Finnish armistice published.

Feb. 27. Russian advance on Baltic front. Germans fall back on Pskov.

Feb. 28. Jap withdrawal in Arakan.

Feb. 29. The Finance Member presents the Budget to the Assembly.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

ALL-INDIA CONFERENCES

Two conferences of all-India significance took place in Hyderabad. The ninth annual meeting of the Indian Academy of Sciences was held under the Presidentship of Sir C. V. Raman and the fifth All-India Surgeons' Conference under the chairmanship of Dr. N. C. Joshie of Delhi. Sir C. V. Raman was re-elected President of the former body for the period from 1944-46 and Dr. R. N. Cooper (Bombay) was elected President of the latter body with Dr. D. P. V. Menon (Madras) as General Secretary. It was also announced that the sixth conference of the Association of all-India Surgeons will be held in Lahore in February next year.

ADVICE TO HYDERABAD GUJERATHIS

Advice to Gujerathis to take to industries and not confine themselves to the commercial field was given by Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas, laying the foundation stone of the Gujerathi Free School.

The local Gujerathi community has raised Rs. 32,000 towards the establishment of the school in addition to providing land.

Mr. Ghulam Mohammed, Finance Member, the Nizam's Executive Council, who also spoke on the occasion, said that a scheme for the introduction of the B. Com. course in Osmania University was under consideration. Government were also making arrangements for scientific research and scientific education.

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

The State of H. E. H. the Nizam of Hyderabad has given a contribution of Rs. 10,000 to meet the expenses of the Industrial Research Committee that has recently been appointed to make a complete survey of the facilities for the scientific and industrial researches existing in India, including the Indian States.

HYDERABAD STOCK EXCHANGE

Raja Pannalal Pitti has been elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Hyderabad Stock Exchange, in place of the late Nawab Kamal Yar Jung Bahadur.

Mysore

RETROCEDED LANDS

The Government of Mysore have promulgated an Act to provide for the application of State laws to the lands retroceded to the Maharaja of Mysore by His Excellency the Crown Representative. The area includes the lands occupied by the Bangalore City Railway station, that portion of Bangalore-Hindupur section of the Mysore Railway which lies between the frontier of the Mysore State and the Bangalore City station and Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, lands lying between the boundary of the Bangalore Civil and Military Station and the City Railway station.

COMPANY PROMOTION ORDER

The Government of Mysore have, under the Defence of India Rules, ordered that no company whether incorporated in Mysore or not shall, except with the consent of the Government, make an issue of capital in Mysore. The Order further states that no person shall issue in Mysore any prospectus or other document offering for subscription which does not include a statement that the consent of the Government has been obtained to the issue.

PRICES OF STANDARD VARIETIES

The Government of Mysore have fixed maximum ex-factory prices for the standard varieties of cloth and yarn of dimensions and counts specified against each of them under Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Control) Order 1943. The maximum prices at which the cloth and yarn of varieties specified above may be sold in retail shall not exceed a total gross margin of 20 per cent. over the ex-factory price in respect of each variety of cloth and yarn.

WARNING TO DEALERS

The Government of Mysore have issued a warning that any dealer in cotton goods in the State who is found with unstamped cloth in his possession will, whether he is prosecuted or not and in addition to any penalty which the courts might sentence him to under the Cotton Cloth and Yarn (Control) Order, lose his Dealer's Licence, if any, issued by the Additional Textile Commissioner in Mysore.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Ceylon

CEYLON INDIANS' RIGHTS

A fervent appeal to the Board of *Ministers in Ceylon to revise their attitude* on the vital question of franchise and rights of citizenship for the Indians in the Island was made by Mr. M. A. Hasham Premji, a prominent member of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, Bombay, and a former member of the Ceylon Indian Delegation, in the course of a statement to the Press.

In the struggle for independence of Ceylon the Indians have played a vital part and have made great contributions to the economic development and prosperity of the Island This and their vital connections in the *economic* structure of Ceylon entitle them to a place of responsibility in the body politic of their Island It is indeed a matter of great regret that on *such important and vital questions affecting* the future position of nearly nine lakhs of Indians in Ceylon, the Board of Ministers should think that the questions of franchise, rights of citizenship and such other questions for Indians are internal matters and as such need not find a place in the scheme which is being framed for submission to the Secretary of State for Colonies

This has justly created a fear in the minds of the Indians that the question with regard to their future status, position, their representation, franchise and rights of citizenship in Ceylon under the new Constitution will be ignored and it would not be wrong to say that it will constitute a grave breach of all political laws if the Ceylon Ministers try to trample the inherent rights of Indians in Ceylon under some pretext or the other This may have *serious consequences on the good relations existing* between the two countries which are geographically, ethically and historically so greatly allied to each other.

East Asia

INDIAN PRISONERS IN JAP HANDS

"I have grave news to tell the House", said Mr. Anthony Eden, Foreign Secretary in a long statement about the treatment *of British prisoners and internees in* Japanese hands.

Among the growing list of cases of brutal outrage on the prisoners, civilians as well as soldiers, was one in which a number of Indian soldiers captured in Burma had their hands tied behind their *backs and were made to sit in groups* by the road and then systematically bayoneted from behind in turn, each man apparently three bayonet thrusts.

South Africa

INDIAN'S CLAIM UPHELD BY NATAL JUDGE

An ex-parte application by Mr. Abdul Hamid Ismail Mulla, Natal Indian, for admission as Attorney-Notary was granted in the Supreme Court, Pretoria, by Judge-President Barry.

*Granting the application, the Judge-*President dealt with an affidavit by the Incorporated Law Society *of Transvaal,* wherein it was pointed out that when the applicant's articles were tendered to the Society for registration, he did not disclose the fact that he was then a prohibited immigrant to Transvaal. Had this fact been disclosed, the Council of *Law Society would have objected to the* registration.

The Judge-President said the applicant had complied with all the conditions entitling him to admission. He was a British subject and appeared to be a fit and proper person. The *question* was, whether he was a fit and proper person *to carry on practice as an Attorney.* The Court was not concerned whether or not he was a prohibited immigrant. "This is the only opposition by the Law Society and I do not think there is any ground in the objection. The applicant is entitled to admission as an Attorney."

Great Britain

INDIANS AND WAR SERVICE

The Committee of Indian Congressmen has issued the following statement:

The Committee fully supports and appreciates the attitude of those Indians who in strict obedience to the Indian *National Congress* or on clear political grounds have consistently refused to serve in the armed forces of Great Britain.

The Committee feels that such an attitude should be adopted from the very outset and the persons *concerned should abide by it till* the end, whatever the consequences to them, the Committee of the Indian Congressmen pledges its loyal support

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS ⁜ DEPARTMENTAL ⁜ NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

CHRISTIAN COUNCIL'S DEMAND

The National Christian Council of India met at Nagpur under the presidentship of the Bishop of Dornakal, to consider the letter addressed by the Conference of Missionaries of Great Britain. The letter, it is understood, expressed concern over the political situation and wanted elucidation as to why the Cripps Offer was rejected and invited suggestions for ending the impasse.

The Council, it is learnt, drafted a letter in reply, setting out its views on both questions. For resolving the deadlock, the Council demanded the unconditional release of Congress leaders, with a view to the early formation of a National Government, renewal of the Cripps offer with certain modifications to satisfy Indian public opinion and declaration by the British Government in unambiguous terms that the Atlantic Charter will apply to India.

Dealing with the position of Christians in India, the Council asserted that no external impositions or safeguards were necessary and that the community would be content with safeguards that will be obtained with the willing consent of the majority.

INDIANS AND BRITISH ARMED FORCES

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In conclusion, the Committee wishes to make it clear that

persons who either supported the war effort in some shape or form or who sought exemption from military service on grounds other than political and conscientious, or have submitted to medical examination to test their fitness for military duties fall outside the category of the persons whom the Committee of Indian Congressmen is pledged to support.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

THE VICEROY'S SPEECH

Addressing a joint session of the legislature on February 17, H. E. Lord Wavell declared:

Nearly two years have passed since the Cripps draft declaration was made public but it stands forth to-day as the solemn pledge of H. M's Government that India shall have full control of her own destiny among the nations of the Commonwealth and the world.

H. E. added:

The Cripps offer was an offer to India of full Self-Government, of the right to frame her own constitution and even of the right if she so desired to sever her partnership with the British Commonwealth".

Lord Wavell said that the offer of co-operation in the Government on this basis by the leaders of Indian opinion was still open, to those who had a genuine desire to further the prosecution of the war and the welfare of India.

But the demand for release of those leaders who are in detention is an utterly barren one until there is some sign on their part of willingness to co-operate."

Referring to the main problem of Indian unity, the Viceroy said:

You cannot alter geography. From the point of view of defence, of relations with the outside world, of many internal and external economic problems, India is a natural unit. What arrangements you decide to make for two great communities and certain other important minorities as well as the Indian States to live within that unit and to make the best use of its wealth and opportunities, is for Indians to decide.

He referred to the examples of England and Scotland, Canada, Switzerland, the United States and Russia, each of whom had solved racial and communal differences within their borders.

These examples are before India for her constitutionalists to study. It is for her to say which will most nearly fulfil of her own needs. But no man can alter geography.

The Viceroy continued:

We cannot settle the future of this country without the full co-operation of the British and Indian peoples and the co-operation within the Indian people of Hindus, Muslims and other minority groups and of the Indian States.

"PAKISTAN, A COUNSEL OF DESPAIR"

"The Pakistan Scheme adopted by the Muslim League is a counsel of despair. It is nothing but a temporary phase which does not offer a permanent and effective solution of the Hindu-Muslim problem. The scheme, in its attempt to solve the minority problem, has complicated it all the more", said Mr. Syed Badruddoja, Mayor of Calcutta, at a press conference in Lahore.

Examining the Pakistan scheme, Mr. Badruddoja said that the sponsors of the scheme started from a wrong position forgetting that unless there was a free India there could not be any Muslim India. Further, under this scheme, the position of Muslims in minority provinces would be worse than at present as they would have no protection and the communal question was apt to become more intensified The Eastern Pakistan would be isolated from the rest of Muslim India and surrounded by Hindu States and hence it would never be safe.

FREEDOM COMMITTEE'S CALL

The Indian Freedom Campaign Committee, in London, issued a statement on the Teheran Declaration, in which they suggest that "the test of British Government's sincerity will be its treatment of India."

The statement, signed by the Independent Labour Member, Mr. Fenner Brockway, novelist Mrs Ethel Mannin, Mr Reginald Reynolds and Mr. Arthur Ballard, says "If Mr. Churchill is concerned to extend democracy, he can start with India at once. He can release thousands of Congress prisoners, remove the ban on the Congress, recognise India's right to independence, and accept a National Government responsible to the people of India. The Governments of America and Soviet Russia have also signed the declaration. We hope they will also insist on its immediate application."

SIR R ACLAND ON SOLUTION OF DEADLOCK

Sir Richard Acland, Leader of the Commonwealth Party, in the course of a "Political Brains Trust" session in London on February 9, stated that the Indian deadlock could be solved only by a Government "which was resolutely determined to get out of India politically and militarily at the first possible moment."

NATIONAL SYSTEM OF EDUCATION

A graduated national system of education, estimated to be given complete effect to in not less than forty years, and to cost Rs. 277 crores annually, when in full working order, has been drawn up by the Central Board of Education for submission to the reconstruction committee of the Viceroy's Executive Council.

This plan of post-war educational development, which is based mainly on Mr. Sargent's scheme, embodies in its suggestions for basic education many of the ideas contained in the Original Wardha Scheme.

Taking into account all aspects of education, the total annual cost of a national system of education, when in full working order, will amount to Rs. 277 crores. As for the actual carrying-out of the scheme, the Board thinks that even if all the funds required are available, it would be impossible to give complete effect to the proposals in a period of less than 40 years. It is suggested, therefore, that the first 5 years should be devoted to planning and propaganda. Therefore, the carrying out of the scheme should be divided into seven five-year programmes, during each of which an area or areas should be fully dealt with.

C R.'s ADDRESS TO HYDERABAD GRADUATES

"We should not confound religion or religious practices with culture. The culture of India, with all its varieties, is in fact one. It is single and indivisible, even as the climate of India is one with all its varieties", observed Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar in the course of his convocation address to the graduates of the Osmania University on January 27.

He pointed out that the Osmania University was unique in All India in scientific education, as well as the teaching of the humanities, were done through an Indian language, "the rich joint product of Muslim and Hindu contract."

There is no University that has made Hindi as such the medium of instruction qualifying for degrees in sciences and humanities. Hyderabad has rendered signal service to the *lingua franca* of India by its bold and successful experiment in Urdu. The name Urdu should not be a cause for underrating this achievement.

DETENTION OF LAWYERS

The Central Assembly passed by 43 votes to 42 on February 9, an adjournment motion moved by Mr. Kazmi to discuss the "misapplication" in the provinces of the Defence of India Rules as exemplified in the arrest and detention of lawyers like Mr. Pardiwala and Pandit Baijnath who were defending accused in political cases. This was the first adverse vote sustained by Government during the session. The Congress members, Muslim League, Nationalist and Independent members voted for the motion. The result of the vote was greeted with loud cheers from the Opposition and cries of "resign", "resign". Speaking on the motion, Mr. Frank Anthony put in a vigorous plea for the protection of the bar against the encroachments of the executive.

To safeguard the rights of Advocates and legal practitioners who are penalised for expressing political opinions is the object of a Bill to amend the Bar Councils Act and Legal Practitioners Act which Mr. T. T. Krishnamachariar, Member of the Central Assembly, has tabled.

The statement of the objects and reasons of the new Bill says:

> An amendment to the Bar Councils Act and the Legal Practitioners Act has been made necessary by the action taken by certain High Courts in striking off the names of Advocates from the rolls of the Bar Councils because of convictions by criminal courts for political opinions held by such Advocates and for acts committed by them in the course of giving expression to such opinions. It is felt by responsible members of Bar Councils that in the face of the present wording of the Bar Councils Act and the Legal Practitioners Act nothing can be done to prevent High Courts from taking such actions. The inequity of a person being deprived of livelihoods for political opinion held by him is understood by all people in this country and in order to obviate the difficulties experienced by the members of the legal profession, this Bill has been sponsored.

TERMS OF MADRAS JUDGES

The Governor-General has been pleased to appoint the Hon. Mr. Justice Kuppuswami Iyer and the Hon. Mr. Justice Shahab-ud-Din, I.C.S., to be Additional Judges of the Madras High Court for a further period from February 1, 1944, to July 15, 1944, says a press *communique*.

SECTION 107 OF INSURANCE ACT

The Federal Court has upheld the validity of section 107 of the Insurance Act in the case in which Kunwar Raghir Singh and two others appealed against their conviction and sentence of 6 months' R.I. and fine of Rs. 500 each, imposed by the lower Court.

It was contended on behalf of the appellants that section 107 of the Insurance Act was *ultra vires* as it contravened the provisions of section 49 (2) of the Government of India Act in so far as it sought to delegate power to sanction the institution of proceedings under the Insurance Act to a provincial officer, namely, the Advocate-General of a province. Their Lordships, in their concurrent judgment, held that there was no basis in the suggestion that merely because an offence is created by an enactment of the Central Legislature, the provincial authorities have no power to enforce criminal law or institute prosecution for such an offence. They also held that under section 124 (2) of the Constitution, the Central Government have the power to impose the duty of sanctioning prosecution on a provincial officer.

WAR INJURIES COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Under the War Injuries (Compensation Insurance) Act, contractors, like ordinary employers, have to pay compensation to the workmen employed by them and are therefore required to take out a policy of insurance from the Central Government to cover all liabilities imposed on them by the Act, says a Press Note.

The contract may be by lending or on hire, the services of workmen or executing some work for a principal employer. The War Injuries (Compensation Insurance) Act makes it clear that in all such cases the liabilities of the contractor cannot be transferred to the principal employer. The principal employer is only required to obtain from the contractor the name of the agent of the Central Government with whom he intends to insure and to report to that agent the existence of his arrangement or contract with the contractor.

U.N.R.R. RELIEF TO INDIA

The House of Representatives passed an amendment to the U.N.R.R.A. Bill providing for the inclusion of India in the areas eligible for relief and rehabilitation.

The House then sent to the Senate the amended Bill, which authorises an expenditure of upto 1,350 million dollars for the relief or war distressed peoples

The President of the India League of America, Mr. J. J. Singh, commenting on the U N R R A. amendment, said: "In my opinion, the passage of this amendment is an expression of sympathy and understanding of the seriousness of the situation in Bengal and Assam.

INDIA SOUTH AFRICA TRADE

The opinion that future years would see a great development in the trade relations between India and South Africa was voiced by the High Commissioner, Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan, addressing a meeting of Europeans and Indians.

Sir Shafaat stated that it was hoped to appoint a Trade Commissioner for India in this country, and with the projected industrial development of South Africa after the war "a golden bridge" would be built as a result of durable trade relations. This would forge yet another lasting link in the development of goodwill and friendly relations between the two countries of the British Commonwealth.

The High Commissioner spoke of India's contribution to the United Nations' cause in volunteers, equipment and munitions and stated that India would play her full part under the inspired leadership of Lord Louis Mountbatten driving the Japanese out of the countries in the East she had filched in recent years.

DISPLAY OF CONTROL PRICES

Dealers in bicycle and bicycle parts and in wines and liquors, wholesalers and retailers, are directed, according to notifi cations issued under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance and published in the *Gazette of India*, dated February 5, to exhibit prominently a price list in their shops showing clearly the retail selling prices of their articles as already fixed by the Central Government.

TRAINED NURSES IN INDIA

"The alleged failure of the nursing profession to appeal to the right type of women in India is due far more to the attitude of the authorities responsible for the maintenance of hospitals and to the conditions in which, too often, probationers are trained and nurses expected to work, than to the alleged reluctance of educated Indian women to undertake the care of the sick." Major General J. B. Hance, Director-General, I.M.S., declared this as his conviction, in the course of a speech welcoming Lady Wavell to the annual general meeting, of the Trained Nurses' Association, and in inviting her to open the meeting, he said "As long as trained nurses are regarded, paid and housed as menials, it is not reasonable to expect that large numbers of Indian ladies will come forward to dedicate themselves to this work."



THE LATE KASTURIBHAI GANDHI

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

The Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal, which has completed the 160th year of its existence, held its annual meeting on February 7. Prof. A. V. Hill, Secretary, Royal Society of London, and Sir Don Baron Jayatilaka, representative of the Ceylon Government in India, who were present, were elected special centenary members of the Society.

The President, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, said in the course of his address that the total strength of the Society's Mss. in Sanskrit languages was about 27,000 representing a variety of subjects. At least 10,000 Sanskritic Mss. still remained uncatalogued and undeciphered.

Similarly, in the Islamic section, they had more than 6,000 Mss. covering an equal variety of subjects. Some of the Mss. apparently formed part of the rich collections of Mughal Emperors whose autographs they bore. More than 1,200 Islamic Mss. still remained to be catalogued.

Sir S. Radhakrishnan was awarded the Sir William Jones Memorial Medal of the Society for his conspicuously important research in Indian philosophy.

The Barclay Memorial Medal was awarded to Sir U. N. Brahmachari for important contributions to medical or biological science with special reference to India. The Indian Science Congress medal was awarded to Dr. S. P. Agharkar for his services to the Indian Science Congress Association as its General Secretary from 1924 to 1935.

Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee was re-elected President of the Society for 1944.

A DAILY FOR S. E. ASIA COMMAND

"A newspaper in battle dress" has made its appearance in Calcutta early last month. It is "S. E. A. C." the daily newspaper of S. E. A. C." Asia Command.

Lord Louis Mountbatten, writing the "Birth Notice" of the paper in the first issue, dwells on the importance of a free press. "Let us make no mistake about it", says Lord Louis. "We are fighting two Fascist Dictatorships. One of the first acts of Fascism in each country has been the suppression of the free press."

Mrs. NAIDU'S TRIBUTE TO W. C. BONNERJI

Tributes were paid to the memory of W. C. Bonnerji, who was the first President of the Indian National Congress, by speakers at a public meeting held at Calcutta on February 18, in connection with the centenary celebration of his birth. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee presided.

In a message to the meeting, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu said: "It is but right and seemly that we who are heirs and beneficiaries of his brave and noble labour should render due honour to this great patriot of the national renaissance who brought to the service of his country the varied and splendid gifts of his vigorous intellect, his dominating personality and the breadth and clarity of his political vision."

PANDIT JINNAH

Once Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, who is known to be an eminent scholar of Urdu, Persian and Arabic, and Mr. Jinnah were appearing in a law court in Hyderabad on rival sides, says *Forum*. The case arose out of the interpretation of certain parts of the Quran. In arguing his case, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru read the particular couplets of the original Arabic and duly translated them in English. When Mr. Jinnah started his arguments, he was asked by the court to read in Arabic the particular couplets from the holy scripture of Islam on which he wished to rely. Mr. Jinnah felt extremely embarrassed. He accepted the offer of Sir Tej Bahadur to translate the couplets for him and agreed to rely on the English translation for his arguments. In reporting the proceedings of the case, a Hyderabad paper came out with the tell-tale headline: "Maulana Tej Bahadur Sapru translates Quran for Pandit M. A. Jinnah."

Mr. SURESH VAIDYA

A sensation has been caused by an incident arising out of the refusal by Mr. Suresh Vaidya, former Secretary of the Swaraj House and member of the editorial staff of the American *Time and Life*, of army service. Mr. Vaidya, who has returned his call-up papers—the first Indian to do so—is stated to have given the reason. "As a son of India, I feel only a free India Government could have the moral right to conscript me."

Dr. B. C. ROY'S DISCOVERY

The problem of shortage of quinine seems to have been considerably simplified by the results which Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy has obtained from a mixture of quinine and a powder of the bark of a tree which grows extensively both in Bengal and elsewhere known as *Sapthaparna*.

Tablets made in accordance with Dr. Roy's instructions and containing a small quantity of quinine have, it is claimed, proved extremely efficacious in a large number of cases of malaria. Further experiments are being carried out in several of the Bengal districts where voluntary medical organisations are working under Dr. Roy's supervision. Should these establish the results already obtained, it is likely that even without much further extension of cinchona cultivation in India, the problem of malaria may be tackled with confidence.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

An examination for the membership of the Royal College of Physicians of London will be held in India in May this year, says a Press Note.

From candidates who wish to sit for the examination 100 military and 40 civil medical men will be selected by a preliminary written examination of M. R. C. P. standard to be held in March at selected provincial centres. Further details will shortly be supplied to military candidates, while civil candidates will be furnished with information on application.

NEW SYPHILIS TREATMENT

Drs. David H. Goldstein, Abraham Stolman and Arthur E. Goldfarb, of the New York University College of Medicine, and Bellevue Hospital, have announced that a chemical derived from lemon peel may be useful in a rapid, safe treatment of syphilis. Chalcone from lemon peel offsets the damage to capillaries of the brain produced in some patients by mapharsen (the arsenic derivative used in rapid treatment of syphilis) without lessening the ability of mapharsens to kill spirochetes. Experiments also show that chalcone itself may have some germicidal effect.

HEALTH

HEALTH PROBLEMS

A co ordinated preventive and curative health service throughout the country more particularly for the rural population, is understood to have been among the subjects discussed at the recent meetings in Delhi of the Health Survey and Development Committee and its five sub-committees. The promotion of medical research in India, the organisation of central control and the development of research activities in medical colleges and teaching hospitals, the training of health personnel, such as public health engineers, sanitary inspectors, pharmacists and dentists, and problems relating to malaria and tuberculosis were also considered. The sub-committees have issued questionnaires, and in the light of them will discuss during their tours the various problems of public health with Provincial Governments, organisations and individuals.

VITAMIN C FROM GREEN TOMATOES

Vitamin C in green tomatoes does not increase perceptibly through ripening. When pulped as for chutney 92 per cent. of the vitamin C may be destroyed in seven minutes, whereas in red ripe tomatoes only 27 per cent. is lost. Unripe tomatoes, therefore, when being made into chutney should not be sliced too finely and should be put immediately into strong vinegar and the sugar added without undue delay. No tomatoes should be discarded merely because they are small or unripe.

TEA AS A WHOLESOME DRINK

In his book entitled "A Treatise on Food," Dr. Louis Lemery, Regent Doctor of the Faculty of Physik, Paris, wrote:

"Tea is very wholesome since it produces many good effects and few bad ones. We see some who will drink 10 or 12 dishes a day without any hurt at all. It is good for disorders of the brain and nerves. It refreshes the spirits."

CHILD HEALTH DIPLOMA

A twelve months' course for a diploma in child health has been instituted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Bombay. The course has to be taken at a recognised children's department of a general hospital.

INDIA'S WAR BURDEN

The following figures of Revenue and Expenditure of the Government of India for five years tell their own tale:

India's military expenditure during this period was Rs. 1,641 crores, of which Rs. 715 crores was on India's own account and Rs. 926 crores on British account.

Of a total expenditure of Rs. 1,005 crores, the normal expenditure was Rs. 426 crores, extra military expenditure Rs. 484 crores, and extra non-military expenditure Rs. 95 crores.

Of a total Indian revenue of Rs. 727 crores, the normal revenue was Rs. 423 crores, and extra revenue through war-time taxation Rs. 304 crores.

This suggests that India has financed in excess of her revenue to the extent of Rs. 1,204 crores, Rs. 278 crores being in excess of Indian expenditure over revenue, and Rs. 926 crores being war expenditure to the account of the United Kingdom.

GOLD PRICES

The volume of official sales of gold in the Bombay market is beginning to make its effect felt, writes the *Economist*. The price quoted in the market has broken again, although the fall is only from Rs. 71·2 to Rs. 71; it is significant owing to the relatively long period of stability which preceded it. The daily off-take in Bombay has slightly declined during recent days and fallen below the average of 40,000 tolas maintained during the last five months.

It is estimated that since August 17, when the official selling programme became a decisive factor in the market, some 3,500,000 tolas have been sold through the Bombay market at prices ranging from Rs. 87 to Rs. 71 per tola. The proceeds of these sales must amount to an equivalent of about £20,000,000.

STERLING LOANS PURCHASE IN INDIA

Remittances from India in 1943 for the purchase of sterling war loans, inclusive of savings by the forces under the active service scheme through the post office savings bank and under the outright purchase scheme, amounted to £2,428,125.

THE RAILWAY BUDGET

Passenger fares, except for suburban season tickets, will be raised by 25 per cent. from April 1, 1944. The additional earnings are estimated at Rs. 10 crores, declared Sir Edward Benthall, War Transport Member, introducing the Railway Budget in the Central Assembly on February 16.

The estimates forecast for 1943-44 a surplus of Rs. 43·77 crores Rs .1·30 crores less than last year, but .Rs. 7·73 crores more than the original estimate, and for 1944-45 a surplus of Rs. 52·21 crores.

BUDGETS AT A GLANCE

(ALL IN CRORES OF RUPEES)

	1943-44 Estimate	1943-44 Revised Estimate	1944-45 Estimate
Gross Earnings	150	178·5	192
Working Expenses	88·14	108·58	114
Net Surplus	36·04	43·77	52·21
To General Revenue	27·10	32·27	31 37

INDIAN RAILWAYMEN AND WAR

Indian railwaymen in khaki are playing a vital part in the war effort. There are more than 40,000 men in railway units of the Indian Army. A large proportion of the officers are from the Indian railways and are now commanding construction, operating and workshop companies. They are helping to speed military priorities through from the bases to the forward areas, building bridges, new lines and depots, repairing breaches in the lines and doubling railway tracks. In the transportation units of the Indian Engineers there are about 8,000 railwaymen, including over 300 officers, of whom about 20 per cent. are Indians. These units are serving in the Middle East, Iraq and Persia, and some of them, now back in India, have had experience of Burma in war-time.

M. & S. M. RAILWAY

It is understood that the contract between the Madras and Southern Maharatta Railway and the Secretary of State for India will terminate on March 31 and that the Government will take over the railway from April next. It is also stated that Government will guarantee the existing permanent staff their rights under their service agreements with the Company up to December 31, 1945.

MOTOR VEHICLES FOR CIVIL TRANSPORT

"With the help of the United States and Canada", said Sir Kenneth Mitchell, Controller of Road Transport, in a broadcast talk from Delhi, "we are now getting new civil vehicles in considerable numbers, although not as quickly as we could wish. It is now possible, however, to replace much of the wastage and it will, I hope, shortly be possible to go some way to meet the growing demands for passenger and goods transport. Obviously, the capacity of our roads and of the road transport which we are likely to get will be limited. Compared with a broad gauge railway wagon which can carry thirty tons, a lorry can only carry four. To replace a goods train of 85 wagons would need 175 lorries, and if these were spaced only twenty-five yards apart the equivalent road convoy would be about a mile long. But the greater speed and quick turn-round of the lorry gives it, if properly used, a far greater relative transport capacity, and I hope that, both for goods and passengers, the effect of the new vehicles which we are now getting will be apparent before long. But this additional transport cannot be run without fuel and if we were dependent upon petrol only we should have merely eased transport troubles in one way by aggravating them in another, that is, in the carriage of large additional quantities of petrol to India in tankers and in India by railway. Petrol, its transport and distribution, are together one of the key things of war and we must not use one gallon more than is absolutely necessary. Therefore, the War Transport Department is pressing and will continue to press for the greatest possible use of producer gas in transport vehicles, which used intelligently, is a very good war substitute."

FORD'S PLANT

No civilian motor-cars are being produced in America to day. And since America entered the war, Henry Ford's industrial empire has been turned into an arsenal for the United Nations. All the Ford plants in Detriot have been converted to the production of tanks, guns and munitions. And now at Willow Run, Ford's genius for mass production is being turned to the manufacture of heavy bombers in the biggest arsenal of all.

F/LT. SUKTHANKER

The first Indian Officer in the Royal Air Force to win the Distinguished Flying Cross F/Lt. Shailendra Eknath Sukthanker has just returned to his home in India after an absence of more than four years.

F/Lt. Sukthanker is the only Indian Officer who has been awarded the Path Finder badge—a badge worn by aircrews of the aircraft which go ahead of the main bombing force in order to mark the target.

He has led R. A. F. bomber crews in heavy raids on Germany, Czechoslovakia and Italy. Essen, Dortmund, Berlin, Hamburg, Cologne, Munich, Pilsen, Nuremberg, Augsburg, Bremen, Turin, Genoa and Spezia are a few of the towns he has located and on which he has dropped "target markers" for the main force of bombers. The "pathfinder" technique has increased the accuracy of night bombing enormously.

F/Lt. Sukhthanker has now joined the Indian Air Force. "I like life in the Air Force and would love to make it my career," he says.

SOUTH ATLANTIC AIR HOP

The hop of 1,970 miles across the South Atlantic from Natal to Africa was made by a fleet of 35 twin-engined American transports, the Douglas Aircraft Corporation announced. The planes then went on to India to open up the Burma road air route to China. When they reached India some flew to Myitkyina, in Burma, and evacuated the wounded and women and children victims of the Japanese northern push. The planes were D C 47 standard cargo carriers. Each carried 1,623 gallons of fuel, a crew of four and enough equipment to keep the plane operating for two years.

DEVELOPMENT OF AIR TRANSPORT

Plans for the development of air transport services in India were expected to be submitted in the near future before the Post-war Reconstruction Policy Committee, said Sir Gurunath Bewoor, Secretary, Posts and Air Department, in reply to a question put by Mr. K. C. Neogy. Plans for the ground organisation and the associated services required were under preparation, he added.

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

In accordance with the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Governing Body of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, a committee has been appointed, composed of the following members: Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetty (Chairman), Sir Jhanendra Chandra Ghosh, Lt.-Col. S. S. Sokhey, Seth Kasthurbhai Lalbhai, Prof. S. K. Mitra, Prof. M. D. Qureshi, Mr. J. J. Ghandy, Dr. K. A. Hamied and Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, who will be the Secretary.

The terms of reference are as follows: (*a*) To make a survey of the facilities for the scientific and industrial researches existing in India, including the Indian States—in the universities and research institutions and laboratories attached to industrial and other concerns; (*b*) to report on the steps and measures that should be taken to promote, direct, control and organise industrial and scientific research by private firms, research institutions, States and other research establishments; and (*c*) to report on such other steps as may be taken towards further industrial and scientific researches in post-war India.

SCHEME FOR RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION

A three-point programme of rural industrialisation, which would double the production of commodities in the country in less than seven years has been chalked out by Sir M. Visvesvaraya.

The industries enumerated in the scheme include manufacture of agricultural implements, fruit-growing, poultry, dairy farm, biscuits and canned food, weaving, leather goods manufacture, jewellery, pottery, various occupations connected with house-building, carpentry, cultivation of vegetables, animal husbandry, etc. Under the scheme contiguous villages and hamlets are grouped into small units which ultimately go to form a unit area known as district. The groups of villages are to have their own controlling agencies and staff undertaking the work of co-ordination and collection of money to help the villagers to start new industries and spreading the message of industrialisation. The area councils or controlling agencies of the district known as a 'unit area' will automatically become, it is claimed, self-sufficient working units.

INDIA'S WAR ECONOMY

A drastic curtailment of the acreage under principal commercial crops; an opposite trend in respect of the major food crops; increase in the prices of almost all commodities; favourable conditions for industrial development; improved industrial profits and firm industrial prices; downward trend of money rates; increased Defence and Civil expenditure of the Central Government and improvement in provincial finances; and more favourable trading conditions and increased merchandise balance of trade. These were the main features of India's war economy, according to the "Review of the Trade of India in 1941-42".

All commercial crops from which the cultivator normally derived the greatest profit ceased to be remunerative to the same extent as before and throughout 1940-41 and the major part of 1941-42 the cultivator was faced with large surpluses of these crops. But the reduction of cultivation in these crops in the latter year was largely responsible for arresting the downward trend of prices which had prevailed in the former.

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Speaking at the meeting of the Agricultural Development Conference at Cairo on February 9, the Indian delegate, Khan Bahadur Afzal Hussein, ex-Vice-Chancellor of the Punjab University, criticised non-recognition by the Universities of Britain and America of research work done by Universities in the Middle East and India. Mr. Afzal Hussein also advocated the setting up by Universities all over the world of agricultural research stations. Research work done in different countries should be recognised by other countries, he said.

THE WHEAT POOL

At the concluding session of the International Wheat Councils Bi-Annual Meeting, it was agreed that Canada's contributions in wheat to the starving people of Greece, which has been shipped at the rate of about 13,000 tons monthly for some time, will be credited against the Dominions quota of 2,500,000 bushels contribution to the Relief pool set up under the International Wheat Agreement.

T. U. C. EXECUTIVE'S RESOLUTION

Resolutions demanding the release of detenus and political prisoners and protesting against the action of Government in permitting women to work underground in coal mines were passed by the General Council of the All India Trade Union Congress at its meeting held at Bombay on February 1. Mr. S. A. Dange presided.

The Council characterised the Government of India's permission to women to work underground in mines as "retrograde in principle, uncalled for by circumstances, not calculated even to achieve the object aimed at, and involving a breach of international agreement".

The Council, after drawing attention to the low wages of miners and welcoming the proposal for establishing a statutory miners' welfare fund, stated that with a view to removing the shortage of coal in the country, the Government should compel the mine-owners to maintain production at the necessary level or take the mines under their control where the mine owners failed to do so and that they should enforce a substantial increase in the wages of the miners so that not only would the miners get full compensation for the increased cost of living, but that their pre war sub standard of wages would be brought to the proper living standard or at least to the standard of wages in other organised industries in the province.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN INDIA

The total number of workers employed in factories in India rose from 21,56 377 in 1941 to 22,81,563 in 1942, according to the annual report on the administration of the Factories Act, 1934, for the year 1942.

The increase was prominent in Government and Local Fund factories which employed 299,729 workers during the year under review as compared with 220,086 workers in the previous year. The report also shows that the number of workers in factories other than Government and Local Fund factories had increased from 19,86,291 to 19,81,834, the increase being prominent in the Cotton Textile Group, i.e., Spinning, Weaving and other factories. In this group the number of workers employed increased from 593,707 in 1941 to 609,975 in 1942.

CENSUS OF BURMA EVACUEES

About 120,585 Burma evacuees are now in Bengal. This is revealed in the preliminary census figures compiled on behalf of the Central Government in November-December, 1943. Of this approximate figures, 28 038 are women. The district of Chittagong claims the largest number with 65,210 evacuees, of whom 9,025 are women.

Two evacuee settlement camps have been opened by the Government of Bengal, one at Rangpur and the other at Dinajpur. No fewer than 20,506 persons, of whom 9 787 are women, have joined the Rangpur camp while 5 210 evacuees, including 2 670 women, are at the Dinajpur camp

Famine and disease have taken a heavy toll of life among the evacuees in Bengal and the death roll is estimated at 25 per cent. of their total number. It is noted that Satkania in Chittagong district has been the worst affected area in this connection.

TRANSFER OF ITALIAN PRISONERS

Several thousands of Italian war prisoners in India have been moved from the country. This information was given during question time in the Central Assembly on February 6 by Mr. C. M. Trivedi, War Department Secretary, who said "It has been decided that Italian prisoners of war with certain exceptions should be transferred from India It is Government's intention that only those employed on work essential to the war effort should remain in India. H.M.'s Government have consented to the proposed transfer and it is hoped that they will shortly arrange for further transfers, several thousands of Italians having already been sent from India."

LAUNCHING OF H. M. I. S. "QUETTA"

With traditional Indian ceremony another vessel for the Royal Indian Navy, H. M. I. S. "Quetta", was launched recently at an Indian port by Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas. The "Quetta" is designed for anti-submarine escort and patrol duties as well as mine-sweeping, and her hull and much of her machinery have been constructed of Indian materials.

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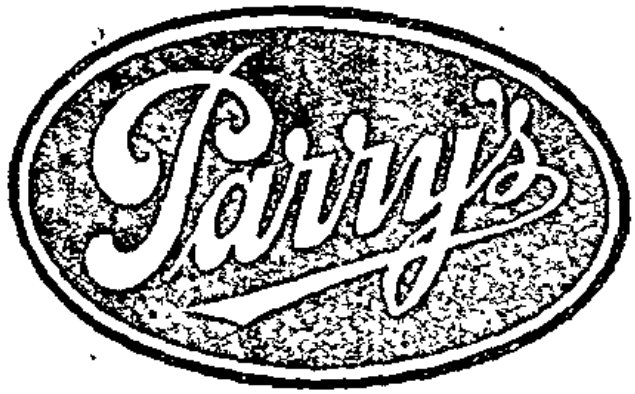
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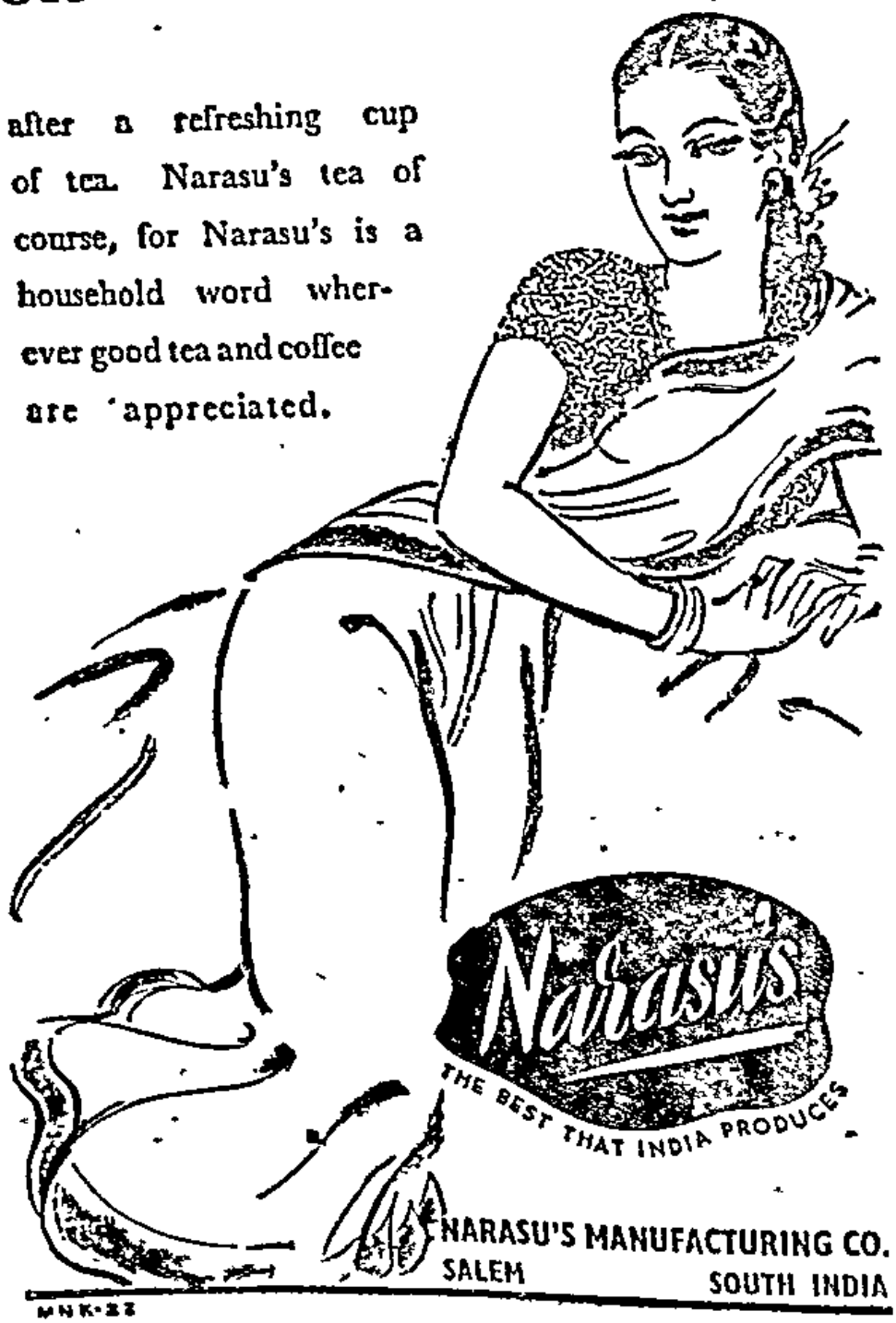
"....I am a demigod,
sprung from the loins
of divinity.
YOU are an inferior being
and your only purpose is
to obey my will
and serve my end
unquestioningly . . ."

So speaks the average Japanese. And he does not only speak it. He really believes it Consider what this means. In his own view an ordinary Japanese soldier is, by divine right, the superior of the finest man in India. He is superior to men like Tagore, Iqbal, or C V Raman Any Japanese soldier trader, tailor, bootmaker or farmer really believes he is a superior being!

How can you deal with a nation like that? They are, by our standards irresponsible and unbalanced But if they are to be pitied for the madness that seems to be in them, remember they are also fanatics. They are dangerous!

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after a refreshing cup of tea. Narasu's tea of course, for Narasu's is a household word wherever good tea and coffee are appreciated.



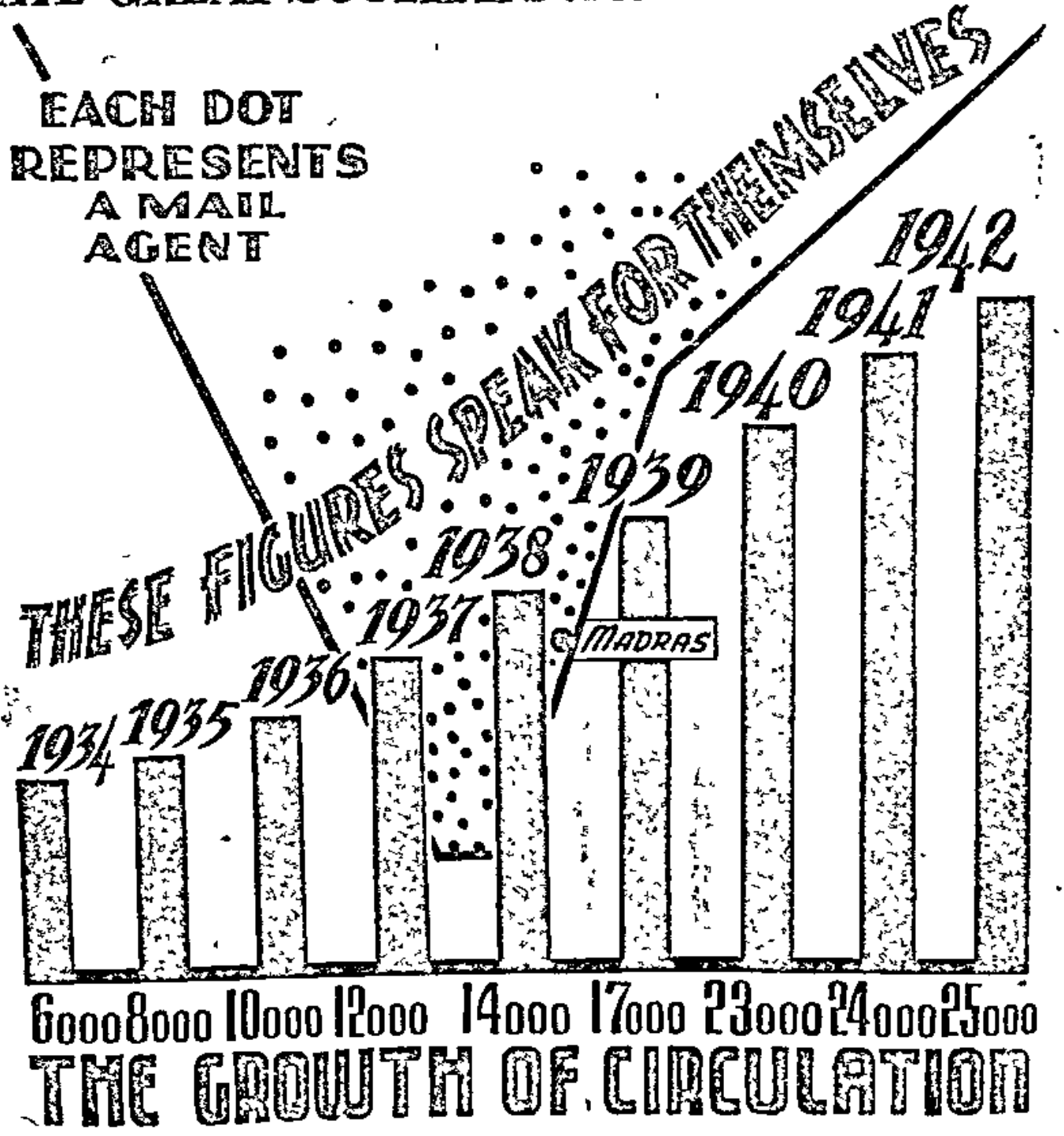
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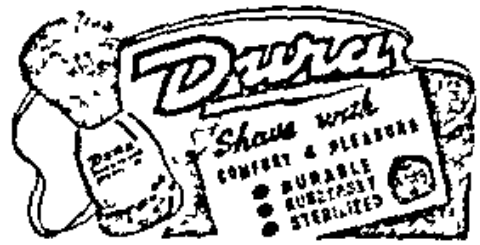
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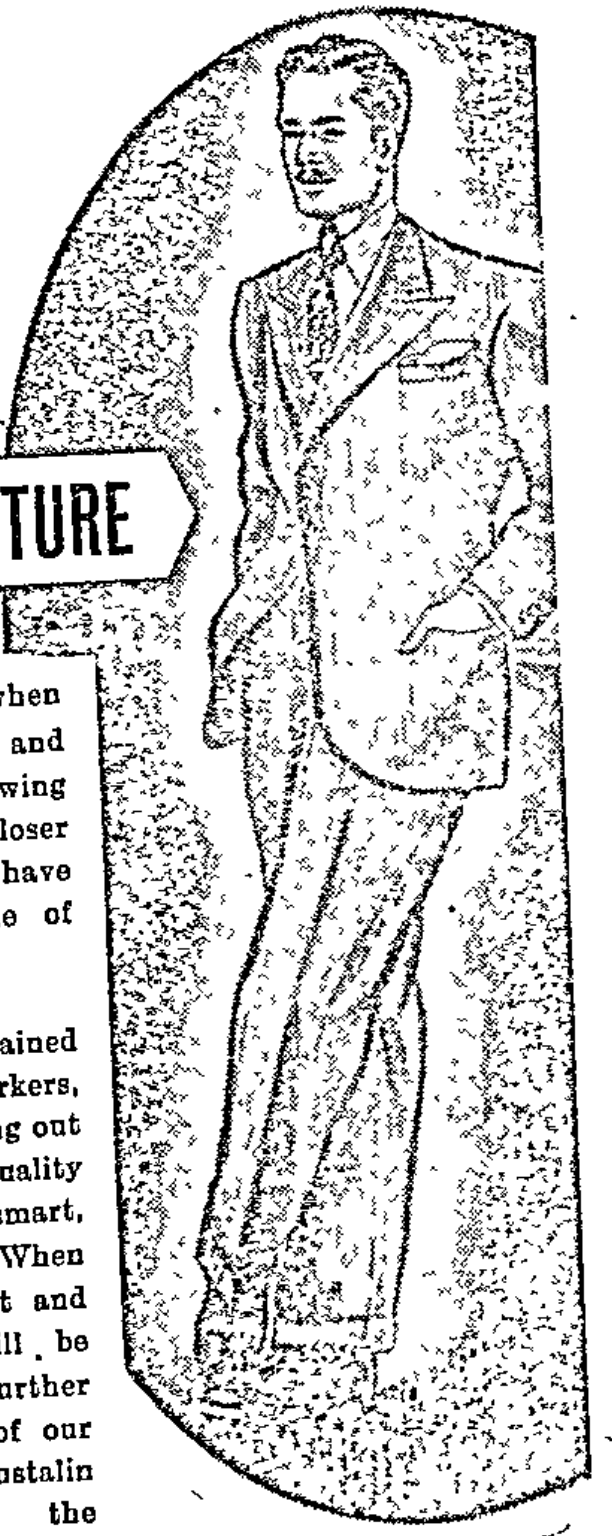
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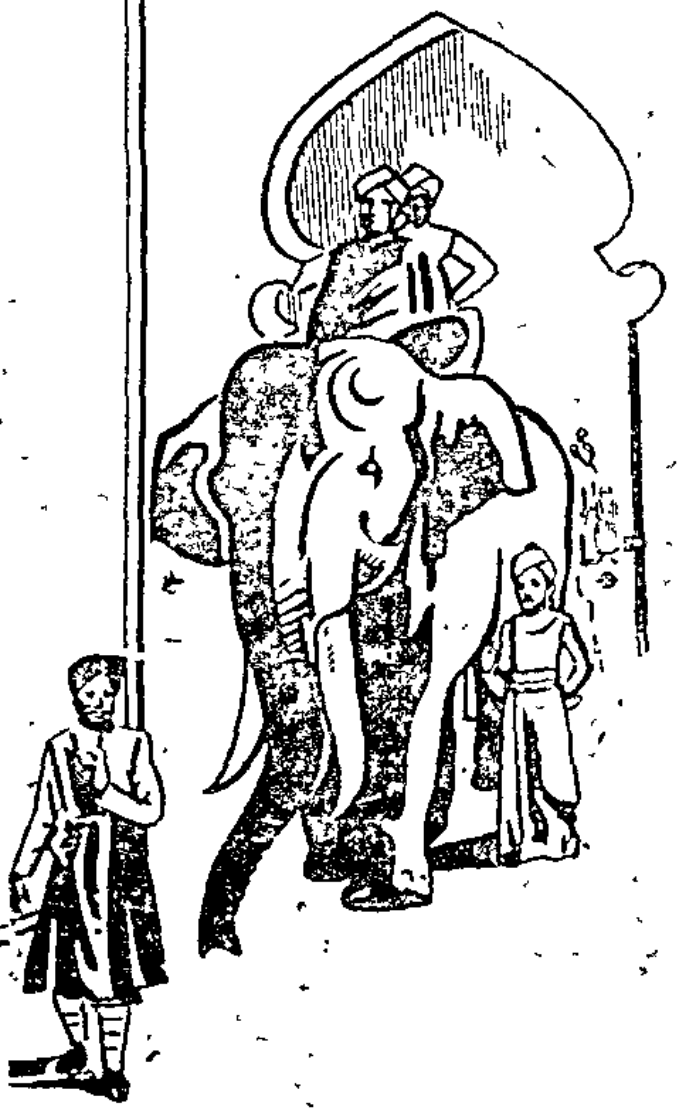
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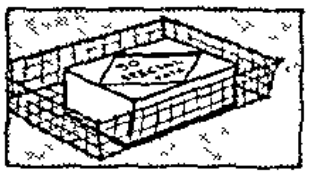
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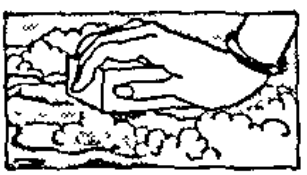
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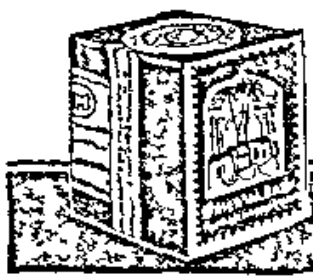
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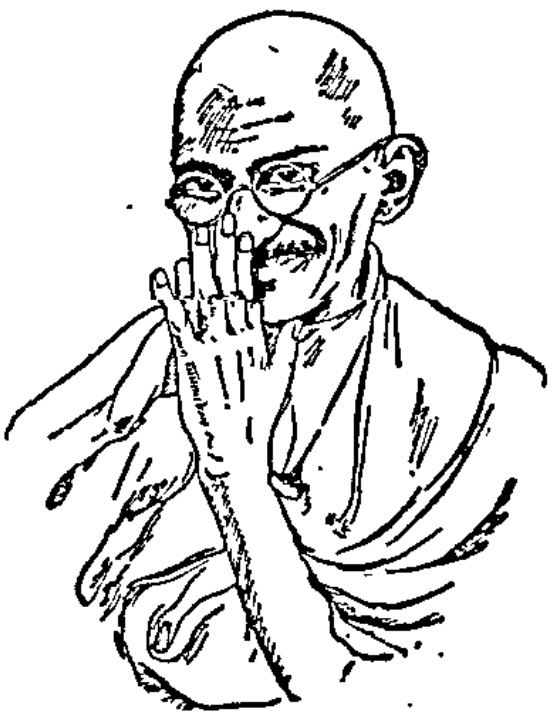
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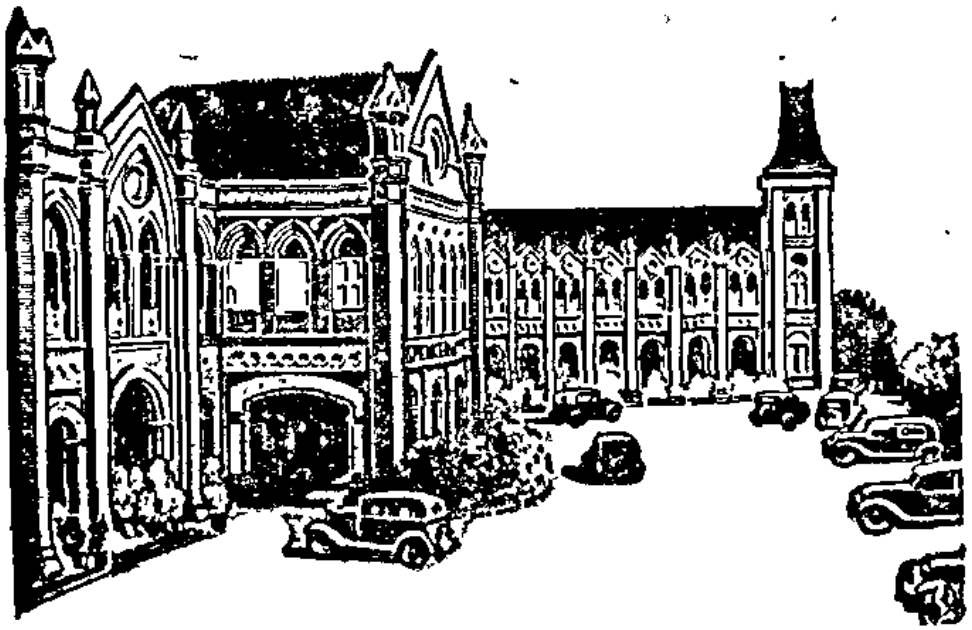
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.] APRIL 1944 [No. 4.

LEGISLATIVE POWERS IN INDIA

By Hon. Sir B. L. MITTER, K.C.S.I.

THE Indian Constitution, which is in operation, is federal in structure. It is the smaller federation of British Indian Provinces with the Central Government and not the All-India Federation envisaged by the Government of India Act of 1935. Despite the efforts of Lord Linlithgow, the bigger Federation did not materialise, by reason of the reluctance of the States to join it. In the first place, the concept of three branches, namely, the Executive, the Legislative and the Judicial was there, but these three were not independent of one another. The Legislative field was largely dominated by the Executive, the Legislature holding a subsidiary place. In India, the Legislative authorities are two—the Legislature and the Head of the Executive, the Governor-General in the Centre and the Governor in the Province. The Legislature, again, is fettered in various ways. So far as the Central Legislature is concerned, its constitution has not changed from the old system. It is composed of elected members, official members and nominated members. Therefore, it cannot be said that it reflects the will of the people. The Provincial Legislature is entirely elected, but the election being on communal franchises, alternative ministries are impossible. Hence, when a ministry having the support of the majority in a Legislature went out of office, no other ministry could take its place and the Governor had to assume all the legislative powers in his own hands. The Constitution has thus broken down in five Provinces and they are being governed under Section 93.

As regards the power of the Governor-General (the Governor has similar power in the Province) to make laws, it is as wide as that of the Legislature and is free from some of the disabilities of the Legislature. He can make and promulgate *Ordinances for the peace and good* government of British India whenever he thinks that an emergency has arisen. No one can question his judgment on this point, nor is he bound to disclose the nature of the emergency. By an Ordinance he can alter, amend or repeal any law passed by the Legislature, but the Legislature, without his consent, cannot touch an Ordinance. Still more drastic is the Governor-General's power to make law by what is called Governor-General's Acts. Whenever he is satisfied that for the purpose of enabling him satisfactorily to discharge his functions, acting in his discretion or in exercise of his individual judgment, legislation is required, he can recommend to the Legislature an appropriate legislative measure. If the Legislature passes it, well and good. If not, he puts his signature on it, and it becomes Law. The Governor-General's discretion and individual judgment cover very wide grounds of administration, including peace and tranquillity of India, financial stability, minority and service interests, etc. Thus, the head of the Executive not only carries out laws, but he makes laws and his law-making power is larger than that of the Legislature. The only control to which he is subject is that of the Secretary of State.

The power of the Legislature to make laws is fettered in many ways. The fetters may be classified under two heads: (1) previous sanction of the Governor-General or the Governor and (2) absolute prohibitions. Under the first head, no legislation can be initiated without the previous sanction of the head of the Executive. This includes all matters in which he has to act in his discretion, and any Bill which repeals, amends or affects any Act rela-

to any Police Force, or which affects criminal procedure relating to European British subjects, etc. Under the head of absolute prohibition are matters relating to the Crown or which affects the Army, Navy or Air Force. The prohibition extends to the protection of British subjects domiciled in the United Kingdom and Companies incorporated in the United Kingdom. This rests on the principle of reciprocity and the gist of the provisions is that Britishers and British Companies must be treated on the same footing as Indian nationals and Indian Companies are treated in the United Kingdom. If any concession or privilege be given to, say, an infant industry, the same concession and privilege must be given to similar British industries operating in India. The coastal traffic of a country is generally reserved to the nationals of that country. But under the reciprocity provisions, if Indian shipping be allowed to engage in the coastal traffic of the United Kingdom, British shipping must be given the same right in Indian waters. These provisions have been claimed to savour of partnership between the United Kingdom and India. It may be observed that unequal partnership always operates to the detriment of the weaker party.

In the Indian Constitution, the Executive dominates the Legislature and Legislative powers are fettered in many ways. Democracy, which postulates government according to the will of the people, has no place in the Indian Constitution.

WORLD GOVERNMENT

BY HAROLD E. STASSEN

(Ex-Governor, State of Minnesota)

LIKE the Great Wall of China, the walls of American isolation have crumbled forever. Throughout America—North, South, East, West, and Middle West—the people are determined to drive through to complete victory in this war—victory for the arms of the United Nations and for our principles, cost what it may. This fact is well recognized

What is not so well recognized but is nevertheless equally true is that the people of America, including the Middle West, are determined to follow through to win an enduring peace in a stable world.

The people of America had loved ones at Pearl Harbour, on Bataan, at Guadalcanal. They now have sons in North Africa, over and under the seven seas and in European skies. They know there is no place in the world of tomorrow for a hermit nation. There remain some voices from the past, but there is a rising tide of public opinion which no one can sweep aside.

In view of this, the people are sincerely searching for the way, the means and the methods whereby America will assume in the peacemaking a degree of responsibility equal to her position in world affairs.

We need a new and higher level of government to serve mankind. It should not take the place of national government. It should have very limited powers specifically delegated to it with all other powers reserved by the individual nations. The individual nations should continue to maintain their own constitutions, their own traditions, their own citizens, their own flags. But the advance of the other sciences clearly calls for an advance in the science of government. Once again it is time for "we the people" to establish a new and higher level of government if people living together are to have peace and progress instead of anarchy, conflict, tragedy, and war.

The beginning of such a government can arise out of the joint actions that are required now in the conduct of the war. Out of the joint action on food, of temporary administration of liberated areas and later of Axis territories, on military operations, on transport and ferry commands and production commissions—gradally specific mechanisms for joint action can develop. Over a period of years definite governmental machinery can evolve for managing those problems of tomorrow's world which cannot be handled by any one nation or small group of nations, however powerful they are.

I propose the eventual development of a single-house Assembly or Parliament as the basic body of government for the United Nations of the world.

This United Nations Parliament would select a chairman of a United Nations Council. The chairman would select seven members from the Parliament to sit on the Council subject to confirmation by the Parliament. The Council would be the executive branch of the United Nations Government, responsible and accountable to the legislative branch.

The United Nations Government would have seven major functions, each under the direction of a Councilman:

1. To establish temporary governments over the Axis nations and the liberated nations and trusteeships or territorial administrations in undeveloped or disputed areas. The temporary governments of Axis nations would proceed with total disarmament of those nations and legal punishment of their criminal leaders. In the liberated nations the temporary governments would function only until the people could choose governments of their own.

2. To administer international airways and airports. This would involve establishment of uniform air traffic rules and controls, co-ordination of weather data, maintenance of air fields, maintenance of flight aids facilities and ways, and perhaps the fixing of uniform rates for freight and passenger transport.

3. To administer the gateways to the seven seas. Development of air traffic will not diminish the use of the oceans but will merely add a new factor to a widening range of total travel, transport, and communication.

4. To increase trade between the peoples of the world. This we must do if general living standards are to be improved gradually and if countries with high living standards are to maintain and advance them without fear of aggressors. The emphasis should be on increasing trade rather than on freezing it universally or arbitrarily.

5. To increase the literacy and improve the health of the people of the world. Academic and scientific freedom should be fundamentals in a program to achieve this, and the great universities and medical centres of the world should have a definite part in the respective projects.

6. To establish a world code of justice. This should begin with a few basic laws enacted by the Parliament emphasizing human rights, protecting minorities, and preventing religious persecution. There should be a United Nations Court, its membership nominated preferably by the Supreme Courts of member nations.

7. To create a United Nations Legion consisting of units of air, naval, and mechanized land forces made up of citizens of the United Nations. This would not supplant the armed strength of individual member nations—at least until such a step evolved naturally from experience with and confidence in the ability of the United Nations Legion to enforce the code of justice, support administration of airways and seaways, and insure disarmament of outlaws and aggressors.

The individual citizen would find his relation to government—city, state, and national—changed little or not at all by establishment of a new government at a world level. The United Nations Government would take over by express delegation of power from member nations some functions which even now can be achieved by national governments only through international co-operation. What is developed thereafter would depend on our experience with government on a world level. If we found that a United Nations Government could accomplish desirable objectives which nations could not accomplish individually, we—or our children or grandchildren—could expect that such a government would be increasingly accepted and used. We should simply be applying on a larger scale the lessons we have learned in our local, state, and national communities.

Our successful government in the United States of America was developed in this manner after an unusual period of frank public discussion which evoked many proposals and objections and counter-proposals. Before and during the War for Independence, from about 1772 to 1776, this search for methods of joint action, this unceasing public debate, continued. The Articles of Confederation, projected in 1777 and ratified in 1781, were our first national attempt at a constitutional structure.

Under the Articles great difficulties arose. The states were slow to ratify. Commercial and other rivalry tore the states apart. At last, in 1787, the Articles were abandoned and the draft of the Constitution itself was completed and ratified by the states.

These precise facts of America's own early history show that the U.S. Government did not spring forth full blown, that even its foundation was not laid in one year or two or ten, but that it grew out of many discussions and trials and proposals.

So today we Americans would be futile perfectionists if we assumed that we must have unanimous agreement to strike out on an effort to improve government. There are many obstacles and difficulties. But the task demands the earnest, searching attention of leaders of many nations and of various parties and branches of government in our own United States.

We must develop a roof to shelter the family of nations from war, from aggression, from social, political, and economic maltreatment by the maldeveloped members of that family. We must find a way for the people of the various continents to live together in an orderly society. That is the road to peace and to the progress of man.

We have developed a world-wide vision to win this war. We are striving for a common front among men of like objectives. We must keep our sights equally high to win the peace. We must remind ourselves over and over again that brave men die in vain upon the battlefield because of what happens *after* a war as well as because of what happens *during* a war.

THE BOMBAY INDUSTRIALISTS' PLAN

BY MR P. R. SRINIVAS

(Editor, The Indian Finance)

THE publication of a plan of economic development for India by eight leading businessmen from Bombay is an event. It is different from its fore runners, not in the principles underlying it nor even in its outlines or details, but in that it is not a mere expression of opinion which stops from where it proceeds. It is an event, in the sense that it will lead to more events. Lord Morley said of Rousseau's "Social Contract" that it is not words, but deeds. Something similar may be said of the Bombay Plan The press, daily and periodical, cannot be content with just reviewing it as a mere pamphlet. To the signatories, it is the beginning of purposeful action. It is more than probable that they have blueprints of new business activity based on parts of the plan coming into execution as part of public policy. The Government of India, whatever its composition or complexion, can ill afford to ignore the Plan Lord Wavell has already gone so far as to make specific reference to it in the following terms:

> We welcome constructive suggestions, and my Government is examining with interest the plan recently propounded by eight prominent businessmen. The views of the authors of this plan on the objects to be achieved are in principle the same as those of my Government—we must work for a substantial increase in standards of living and social welfare. We may, on examination, differ on the methods to be employed, their relative importance in the plan as a whole, the part to be played by the State and by private enterprise, and the financial practicability of development on the scale contemplated within the time suggested by the authors; but our aim is similar and we welcome any sincere contribution to the problem that sets people thinking and makes them realise both the possibilities and the pitfalls ahead of us

It is this eventful character of the Bombay Plan that the public in India must seize on. Economic planning in a country like ours is necessarily too complicated and vast for any one to say the last word on it. The priorities to be assigned to the various objectives of the Plan and the pace of progress, not to speak of issues which belong to the highly controversial terrain of social ideology, will alone have to engage the attention of specialists for a comparatively long time to come. But I believe I make no dangerous forecast when I say that all subsequent discussions of economic planning will centre round the Bombay Plan, much in the way in which discussions of basic education have centred round the Wardha Plan.

I don't mean to pay any extravagant compliments to the authors of the Bombay Plan. Indeed, it must be remembered that nothing more than the germinal idea of the Wardha Plan has been retained in the Wood and Abbot Report or the more

comprehensive plan of national education drawn up by Mr. Sargent, the Educational Commissioner of the Government of India. And in the case of the Bombay Plan, there is, in fact, nothing strikingly inventive. But the eight industrialists of Bombay have done what it has not occurred to the wildest Communist or the most humanitarian of Congressmen to do. They have measured the difference between what is and the minimum of decent requirements in the economic sphere, in terms of goods, of money, of capital, outlay and of public expenditure. They have stated it in the simplest terms and with the simple faith that, staggering as are these figures, what they indicate is not beyond our reach. This simple faith, when it is unstated and unobstrusive, is more powerful than the most powerful or the most persuasive of arguments. For the first time, the whole nation is beckoned to its task of economic uplift. We are used to much rhetoric, often of the forensic kind. We are used to arguments of the most subtle and the most theoretical kind. But we have never been told that, for the people to be better fed, better clothed, better housed and enabled, in every way, to live better lives, we need so much more food, clothing, housing, schools, machines, etc., etc.

The essence of the Plan, then, is a series of sums in simple arithmetic. The starting point is the calculation which shows that "in order to secure a minimum standard of living a per capita income of Rs. 74 (as against Rs. 65 in 1931-32) at pre-war prices is essential." The next step is to recognise, that, given our present demographic trends, a threefold increase in our total national dividend within a period of 15 years, would in effect, mean a per capita income of Rs. 135, representing a doubling of 1931-32 figure. The authors of the Plan envisage a change in the contribution of industry, agriculture and the services to the total national income from 17, 53 and 22 per cent. respectively of the present time to about 35, 40 and 20 on completion of the Plan. They contemplate a division of their 15-year plan into three five-year plans and one may easily guess that the pace of progress is not the same in all the three stages.

By these methods, the leeway to be made up in every line of production is estimated to a nicety. The proportion between capital investment and yield obtaining at present in different types of industry is taken as the basis of estimating the requirements under recurring and non-recurring expenditure. And it is thus that the Bombay Plan has come to be known as the Rs. 10,000 crore plan of economic development for India.

The exact apportionment of this vast sum among the various purposes is assuredly not of popular interest. Nor is the Plan advanced to the stage in which the figures can have a technical interest. Since the essence of the Plan is the setting of the target figures and the natural, buoyant optimism with which it is propounded, it is for the country as a whole to accept it and rally round it, in more or less indifference to criticisms that may be made of this or that aspect of it.

It is well to remember that the pamphlet now published does not purport to be a fully evolved plan. It is only an earnest of what its authors propose to do in the sphere of economic planning. More is promised; and more will be forthcoming, though in the meanwhile certain basic issues must certainly be threshed out in public. I have no desire to disguise my disappointment that the pamphlet contains no indication of the way its authors would like to allocate spheres of activity between the Government and private enterprise. Their calculation of the expenditure involved almost suggests a central agency which is to have command of all the available communal resources and apportion them among the various objects on hand. No attempt has been made to indicate the prime motive power of economic progress in the country, unless it be that the authors of the Plan look to the National Government to wave a magic wand and change the face of the people. The wisdom of a Plan lies in the last resort in the certainty with which it can create and tap the material and spiritual sources which make for an economic revolution. But it is unfair to pre-judge. What I miss in the pamphlet may well be held back for the memoranda that are yet to come. A considerable part of the Plan is assuredly the sphere for private enterprise. And its authors can, if they exert themselves,

THE FUTURE OF INDIAN SCIENCE

BY PROF. A. V. HILL

[Prof. A. V. Hill, Secretary of the Royal Society, who has come to this country to advise the Government of India on scientific matters, has for some months past been in close touch with leading Indian scientists and their achievements. In this broadcast from Bombay, Prof. Hill refers to the age-long spiritual and artistic tradition of India which is bound to react on, and in some degree colour her contribution to science. "I have no doubt myself", he says, "of the magnitude of India's future and characteristic contribution to world science".—ED. *I.R.*]

IN 1846 a young scientist, Thomas Henry Huxley, sailed in H.M.S. *Rattlesnake* as—to quote the words—"a surgeon who knew something about science," on what proved to be a very famous journey to biological discovery. Among the instructions issued by the Admiralty to the captain of his ship was the following:

"You are to refrain from any action of aggression towards a vessel or settlement of any nation with which we may be at war, as expeditions employed on behalf of discovery and science have always been considered by all civilized communities as acting under a general safeguard."

That was nearly 100 years ago. Fifty years earlier still—Britain being then at war with France—a French scientific sailor, Chevalier de Rossel, a prisoner of war in England at the time evidently on parole, dined with the Royal Society Club in London at the invitation of Alexander Dalrymple, the hydrographer to the Admiralty. The Navy, as well as the Royal Society, evidently regarded scientific standing as entitling its holder to civilized and friendly treatment, regardless of the misfortune of a state of war between the two countries.

It needs no historian to recall how learning, scholarship and art, on the one hand, and natural philosophy and technology, on the other, have from their earliest days been largely international in their scope. In the Western world, torn often with cruel, senseless and useless struggles, these were the only common interests of mankind. It is pleasant to remember how philosophers and scholars could, usually without hindrance, even in times of war, continue uninterrupted their intercourse with other countries.

It is recorded that Sir Humphrey Davy, the famous chemist, visited France and was received with great honour by French scientists, at a time when Britain and France were at war. A document, now more than 700 years old, records the presence at Padua of French, English, Norman, Provencal, Spanish and Catalan students. Later at Padua 22 "nations", as they were called, were represented, 12 from Italy itself and 10 from beyond the Alps. In the fifteenth century there were about 100 French students there, nearly as many English and Scottish and over 800 German. In spite of all difficulties of transport and communication, there was a very real international sense in the humane pursuit of learning. Had learning, medicine and science no other gifts at all to offer to mankind—and they have very many more—their habit of transcending language, nationality and prejudice would have made them, more perhaps than anything else, worth-while.

In speaking about science, one would like to emphasize first the cultivation of science—the improvement of natural knowledge—as an end in itself, regardless of its immediate practical results. All experience teaches that practical results will in fact follow and will be worth far more for human progress and betterment than the original cost of the research. Not, it is true, from every bit of new knowledge, but on the average, and taking the advance of scientific knowledge as a whole. Nobody can be sure beforehand from which bit of new knowledge practical results will most likely flow.

"The wind bloweth where it listeth and thou hearest the sound thereof—but no man knoweth whence it cometh and whither it goeth." That may not be strictly true of metereology today, but it is certainly true of scientific progress. It is essential, therefore, that science should also be followed for its own sake. Goodness, honesty, integrity, unselfishness

and courage may, in fact, as the proverb goes about honesty, be the best policy, but it would be a mean—indeed, a useless *thing—to advocate these virtues simply* because they "pay". Rather should they be regarded as things which have value in themselves, a part of man's duty to himself as well as to his neighbour. So also with science. The pursuit of knowledge, like the pursuit of virtue, should be regarded as an adventure of the human spirit not only for what it will bring to the improvement of human life but for what it will afford to the human mind and spirit itself.

THE SPIRITUAL SIDE

In India there *is* an age long and characteristic spiritual and artistic tradition which is bound to react on, and some degree colour, your characteristic contribution to science. There are those in India who fear that your spiritual and artistic traditions may suffer from contact with the crudities of material mechanistic science and the industrial developments based on it. To some degree one sympathizes with them. That catastrophe you can best hope to avoid, not by shutting your eyes to scientific progress—which will go on whether you like it or not—but by emphasizing all the time, first, the spiritual and intellectual side of science and, second, the humane, artistic and cultural aspects of the material progress based upon science.

Industrial development need not mean hideous towns and factories any more than bio-chemistry need imply a disbelief in any of the higher attributes of life. Public health need not mean regimentation. Industrialization is certain to come, the application of science to industry, agriculture, health, transport, communications, etc., is sure to be widely developed. The health and welfare of the common man, hundreds of millions of simple, humble, common men, are so intimately bound up with progress in these directions that it would be wickedness, cruelty and folly for those who are better off to oppose it. There need be no conflict between the material and the spiritual: the idea that there is such a conflict is a myth and an illusion, like the idea that there is necessary conflict between science and religion or between individual *freedom and good government.*

In all these things we need co operation, not struggle. Unfortunately the idea of fighting appeals so strongly to romantic, *youthful and pugnacious temperaments that* it is usually preferred to the more prosaic idea of co-operation by those who profess to accept pacifism as a creed! It is the greatest pity that this should be so and I see no reason why in India the artistic, cultural and intellectual aspects of science, the pursuit of pure science as an adventure of the human spirit, may not be followed side by side and in full co-operation with the material applied side—which leads to the welfare, health and prosperity for the simple, common man. The common man, after all, in his hundreds of millions, can't be neglected for intellectual or aesthetic reasons!

If science in India is to be pursued and developed, as it should be, both for its own sake and for its material results, very much more needs to be done. There are—and the whole world knows it—first-class scientific men in India, but there are still far too few of them for a country of your size. There are first-class scientific institutions but most are still poor and small. Some subjects have been well developed but many have been given little opportunity of healthy growth. Scientific societies you have *and learned* institutions; some with national authority and scope, some still struggling for a place. May I interpolate by saying how much credit is due to the Indian Science Congress Association—which *is* the "opposite number" of the British Association—for the advancement of science, for the grand work it has done now for nearly a third of a century in trying, and trying successfully, to raise the standards of Indian science and the status of Indian scientific men.

I have no doubt myself of the magnitude of India's future and characteristic contribution to world science. I say "future" contribution not because I underrate the present contribution but

because it can, and should, and must, and will be very much greater. The native quality of the people of India and the natural resources of the country will make that quite inevitable in the end. The question only is of how and when and by whom. Is it going to be done in isolation? I trust and believe not. I should scarcely have been invited to come and advise the Government of India on scientific matters had that been likely. I should not have come had I thought that such isolation was your future. Everything I have seen and the extreme friendliness of my reception show the real desire of Indian scientists to collaborate freely with the rest of the world. Is it going to be aimed solely at material advantage with economics and finance always the sole ultimate purpose, or is it going to be directed in general at humane and spiritual objectives?

THE OBJECTIVES

Man himself, after all, is the ultimate purpose of all who promote education, learning and research. Puny, fearful, unreasonable, quarrelsome, childish, selfish, excitable and easily misled he often is, yet possessing always, or almost always—I omit Hitler and Mussolini and their cut-throat elements—nobility, courage, kindness, curiosity and devotion such as no other living creature has. On his health, his happiness, his prosperity, his comfort, but also for his wisdom, for the satisfaction of his divine desire to understand, to free him from ignorance and superstition as well as from fear and want, education, learning and research must advance together, proudly and confidently, not on a single objective, but on the whole range of objectives, spiritual as well as material, which hold the true destiny of man.

THE ADVENTURE OF LIVING

BY PROF. DIWAN CHAND SHARMA

—:o:—

OF speculations about life there is no end. Moralists have been busy telling us how to practise the art of living in conformity with the highest notions of right and wrong. Philosophers, with no less skill and insight, have tried to explain the mystery of life and impart to it some kind of significance. Men of religion have held before us visions of happiness and torments of suffering in order to lead us along the path of good life and to warn us off the high-way of unrighteousness. All ethical systems, all schools of philosophy and every religion of the world have given us their suggestions, initimations and final conclusions about life. All this, if the truth be told, has added to the prevailing confusion about the meaning of life. As if this were not enough, scientists and psychologists have also entered this field. They are also bent on the same pursuit and engaged in the solution of the same mystery. In many ways their entry in this field has not been wholly beneficial. They have exploded some of the most cherished ideas of their predecessors, and shaken the most firm-rooted beliefs. All these have thus combined to make life a baffling mystery. The plain man does not know what to make of these conflicting ideas, competing ideologies and warring creeds. He therefore feels exasperated and says, "Away with all these".

Still he cannot ignore this problem. It is related about Confucius that some enquirer went up to him and asked, "what is life?" The sage with his usual imperturbable good humour is reported to have said, "why do you bother about life? Living is more important than life. One should not bother about the mystery of life, but acquire the dignity of living." The Chinese philosopher was right in making this profound observation and in giving this wise counsel. It is much better to master the art of living than to tackle the problem of existence. The problem of living confronts us every moment of our life while the phenomena of life haunt us only now and then.

Happy is the man who knows how to live without being told so. But there are very few such perfectly adjusted beings. Life is so complex and the world is so complicated that most of us suffer from some kind of breakdown at one time or another. There may be some physical incapacity which may handicap us all our life; some moral twist may warp our nature; some unforeseen calamity or disaster may throw our life out of gear, some psychological malady may cloud our life or some shock may have a staggering effect on us. It is in a time of crisis like this that one's spirit is tested. It is then that a person clings to some philosophy of living.

The modern man (or woman) is living in exceptional circumstances. He has to bear an amount of stress and strain which normally human nature cannot put up with. The international crisis, the political uncertainties in his own country, the strange fluctuations of the market, domestic difficulties, all these make life so barren and profitless. There is no wonder that all of us at one time or another try to seek comfort from the guidance of those who are supposed to know something about the art of living. One thing is sure that the modern man does not want merely utopian fancies or sentimental vapourings about life, but he wants something concrete and practicable. The solace of religion, the refuge of mysticism, the consolation that comes of a belief in the supernatural, all these things are good in themselves, but they somehow do not grip us as forcibly as they did our forefathers. Still we want not only to understand the art of living but also some kind of inspiration for making a success of this business of living.

At one time biographies served this two-fold purpose, and I remember how passionately some people devoured some of the books by Samuel Smiles and such biographies as *From Log Cabin to White House*. Nor were these of interest merely to juvenile readers. I remember some grown-up persons who were very fond of reading these books and who recommended these to others also. The appeal of these books lay in the fact that they filled one with a desire for achievement. We were told about men who started life under the most discouraging circumstances, and yet were able to reach the top of the ladder. The writers of these biographies seemed to say to their readers, "If these men could achieve so much, why should you also not be able to climb very high." But after some time one found that these books lost all of their inspirational quality. For this the style of presentation was more responsible than the subject of the biography. Life was simplified to such an unnatural extent that it lost all the semblance of truth. Some of these biographies had neither the truth of life about them nor the truth of imagination, and therefore they seemed to be profitless.

At a later stage people turned to such books as written by Orison S. Marden. These books were at one time the rage, and every educated person took pride in reading them. These too were the source of a curious kind of facile optimism. While one went through them, one felt as if the whole world lay at one's feet. They dealt in brief moral maxims and elementary psychological truths, and these were enforced by a multitude of examples from the lives of famous persons. In one place one was told that punctuality is a great asset in climbing to the highest point of life. This is commendable in itself. But somehow by reading about it one came to feel as if it was a key which could open all doors. To be punctual was more than enough, for this was the highest secret of life. One who was in time for everything was the most virtuous man, and no obstacle could stand in the way of his achievements. In another place one read that thinking has great magical powers. If one thinks along the right lines, one can achieve anything. Only mental effort is needed for getting anything done, and every other thing is superfluous and unnecessary. Doing came automatically to a man who could think, and right doing was the fruit of right thinking. In actual life one knows, however, that mere thinking may be a kind of mental sloth, and may not lead to anything. But the author never took this possibility into account, and even if he had it in mind, he never

suggested it in his book. In this way these books were a strange exhibition of false emphasis. They, in some ways, distorted the truth about life.

There have been some other books also which have sought to explain the art of living. Many persons are familiar with Arnold Bennett's book, *How to Make the Best of Life*, and not a few have derived some profit from it. It throws some light on human relationships and offers a solution of some of the problems of life. It corrects our perspective about several things, and enables us to understand some phases of our own personality. The author discourses eloquently on the supreme satisfaction of our lives; and tells us what ends we should pursue. He emphasises the role of disposition in shaping human destiny and counsels us not to run counter to it. By disposition he means the bent of our mind, and it is believed that one should not thwart it in any respect. This piece of advice reminds us of a similar precept in the *Bhagvad Gita*, and in another aspect it seems to have a deep psychological truth. It is only another way of saying that one should avoid inner conflicts, and one should not present the spectacle of split personality. But when all is said and done Arnold Bennett's book is a curious plea for gaining worldly success. It glorifies the materal side of life, and it ignores in some ways its spiritual aspect. Still whatever Arnold Bennett says carries conviction.

Another book on a similar subject was recently published by Andre Maurois. It has all the charm and distinction of the author's writings. But somehow it does not grip as much as it should. We are given a great deal of valuable advice in this book, but all that is curiously grandfatherly. How to fall in love, how to treat one's friends, how to run one's home, all these subjects are dealt with in the book. But somehow the book does not catch one's imagination. In many ways it seems to be more like a note-book than like a book. The personal convictions of the writer seem to be absent from the book, and it seems to be a parade of learned authorities. Still the book is worth perusal, because it is the outcome of a cultured mind and of a highly educated person.

Life the Great Adventure (published by the Home Library Club) is a book of a different type altogether. In it are assembled the conclusions of science, ethics, religion and psychology about life, and therefore it provides a more comprehensive approach towards it than any other book that I know of. This is not, however, merely a book which enables us to understand life. It provides also the necessary stimulus to live life on a higher physical, intellectual, emotional and social level. Above all, it makes us adopt the right attitude towards life. Life is to be looked upon as a kind of adventure, adventure in this world of time and space, in the domain of the mind or in the field of social endeavour. While there are chapters which deal with personality, youth, parent hood, ambition, leadership, rest and other things, the most useful chapters are those in which the quality of ambition is explained, and we are told what leadership means. The most desirable thing about this book is that it gives hope even to those whose lives are, so to say, commonplace. It is essentially a book for the common man, but any common man, who reads it will know how to stand above the crowd while pursuing his daily round of duties. It is an eminently practical book. It enables us to understand the complicated business of living and is more comprehensive in its scope than any other book I have read. It is, however, a pity that this book has not that distinction of style which the books by Arnold Bennett and Andre Maurois have, nor has it their personal appeal. It is a helpful compilation which explains life from almost every angle, but which does not, except in parts, have that magical quality about it, which a book of this type should possess.

Still all these three books have a curious oneness of aim, for all of them explain how living can be made adventurous. They cannot be substitutes for books of religion or books of philosophy, but they can all show to us that living can be worth-while.

IS IRANIAN OIL A BLESSING TO IRAN?

By Mr. DARA DASTOOR

—:o:—

WE all generally regard the existence of oil in a country as a blessing of Nature, because oil is the one thing in the world for the possession of which diplomats and dictators are willing to pay any price—even blood. For hast not Clemenceau said, 'A drop of petroleum is worth a drop of blood"? Hence well might the Americans point proudly at their numberless derriks and say "the land that stocks oil rocks the world", well might the Japanese dig hard unto their soil in the vain attempt to get at oil, and well might Hitler fight against odds to bring the rich Caucasian oil fields under his control.

But at the same time, there are countries which produce this precious life-blood of a modern war-machine in large quantities but are unable to say it is their own—their national product. They gain from this most precious natural resource little beyond a handsome Royalty and perhaps some share of profits. Nay, to them this oil, instead of being an asset of National value, is a great liability and at times a grave danger to their independence. Against the boast of the Americans that the land that stocks oil rocks the world we hear them grumble "uneasy lies the land that breeds oil in its bosom". Such, for example, is the case of Iran—the classic land of the Lion and the Sun.

Iran, like the United States of America, is a large producer of oil. In fact it stands fourth in the list of oil-producing countries, and if all the oil fields existing and potential were brought to book, it would stand even higher. But there is a peculiarity about Iranian oil—not in its chemical composition—but in its relation with the economic life of that country. For whereas American oil is the hand-maid of America's industrial structure, Iranian oil is not so; mainly because Iran's industrial structure is not yet well developed and also because of lack of communications in the country. Persian oil is being sold in most parts of the world, large steamships on the world's ocean-paths, thousands of aeroplanes in the skies above us and millions of motor-cars on the world's high ways are driven by the power of Iranian motor-spirit and yet Iran itself until very recently used to import the petroleum products needed for her own consumption.

The explanation of this paradox lies in the fact that the Iranians in the North found it cheaper to import oil from Baku, the Russian oil-port on the Caspian, than to bring the oil produced at Maidan-i Naftun over the Bakhtiari Hills and the Zagros mountains. This position has been explained by Moustapha Khan Fateh by the following analogy:— "Persia is like a hungry person who has plenty of food in another part of his house but is unable to partake of it because of his physical inability to walk."

But since these words were written (in 1926), the old order hath changed giving place to new. For within a short space of fifteen years Reza Shah Pahlevi, the wizard of this ancient land, transformed the hitherto nomadic, primitive and poor Persia into modern Iran—a semi-industrial and semi agricultural country. In two decades he provided his land with some 10,000 miles of up-to-date motor-roads, some 1,200 miles of most expensive railways in the world, and with a number of factories producing a variety of articles, such as cotton, silk, woollen and leather goods, sugar, cement, arms and ammunition and even an assembling plant for air-crafts. No doubt much still remains to be accomplished to bring Iran to the fore-front of industrial nations of this world; yet the progress so far is sufficient to take the sting out of the above quotation from Moustapha Khan Fateh. The hungry man has now begun to move and in a short time will be able to partake of the food.

But the truth of these words cannot be denied in the days when they were inspired (1926), or, say, forty years back when D'Morgan smelt oil in the soil of Iran, which ultimately resulted in the grant of a 66 years' concession to William Knox D'Arcy, the founder of the Anglo-Persian Oil Company.

This Oil Company opened up an entirely new field of Imperialism in Iran. It has since become a State within a State, with its own administration, its own Tanker fleet, its own hospitals, cinemas and tobacco shops. It is not listed on the Domesday Book of Nations but it exists. The creation of Bandar Shahpur by the Iranian Government to serve as the southern terminus of the Trans Iranian Railway while Abadan or Mohamerra would have served this purpose much better, manifests beyond doubt the existence of this petty Oil State as a separate *entente*. It becomes much more so on a study of the export figures published by the Government of Iran. In these figures are not included the figures of the value of oil exported by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, nor is it taken account of while calculating the balance of trade of the country.

The following emotional comments of Sir Arnold Wilson (then Lt. Wilson) to his father on the occasion when oil was first struck at well No. B1, Maidan-i-Naphtun on 26th May, 1908, bear ample testimony to the situation:

"It is a great event. It will provide all our ships east of Suez with fuel. It will strengthen British influence in these parts. It will make us less dependent on foreign-owned oil-fields."

The financial advantages to the British Government can best be explained by citing Mr. Winston Churchill's reference to this question in his book "The World Crisis" in which he estimates the amount gained and saved by the British Government at £40 millions made up as under:

Market value of Government's 5 million shares	£s.	16·0	millions.
Dividends and various taxes received	£s.	6·5	,,
Amount actually saved in oil purchased as compared with current prices	£s.	7·5	,,
Further savings estimated on the balance of the contract	£s.	10·0	,,
Total	£s.	20 0	,,

Against all these gains—financial, political and otherwise to the British Government, we can place for comparison the only substantial gain to the Iranian Government, *viz.*, Royalties received from the Anglo-Persian Oil Company, which in 1927-28 amounted to £s. 1488,000. No doubt this Royalty has increased considerably during the last few years but so have the gains to Britain and the proportion remains almost unaltered. No doubt the Company spends a large sum of money every year in Iran for labour and supplies. The number of Iranians employed at the oil-fields and refineries exceeds 25,000, while towns like Mohamerra, Ahwaz, Abadan have gained much in material prosperity.

The greatest disadvantage of Iranian oil to Iran is that it plays the role of an apple of discord in Iran's foreign affairs and makes her the victim of foreign powers.

Oil was an accidental find for Iran. Its existence in that country causes wonder and envy in many a nation. To all eyes Iran seems to have discovered the most precious resource which lies in the main stream of industrial evolution. Iran has been saved from the cruel fate of bringing oil from foreign countries. She can well spread her tails like a peacock to the Sun. But now that we see the position clearly—"the enchantment is at an end, the mirage evaporated, the soap bubble burst and the chariot of Cinderella relapsed into its original pumpkin and mice."

Thus, to-day, oil is more or less a liability to Iran but if the present rate of her progress towards industrialization were kept up, the day will not be far off when this very oil will form a real asset to the Iranians. On that day, the Iranians might well boast "the land that stocks oilrocks the world."

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

THE HINDU CONCEPTION OF LAW

By Rao Bahadur T. S. NARAYANA IYER, M.A., B.L.

(Retired Chief Justice, Cochin.)

IN his valuable contribution on "Freedom in the Vedic Civilization" in the February part of the *Indian Review*, Dr. C. Kunhan Raja has rightly adverted to two notable features in the early codification of law as found in the Dharma Sutras, *viz*, (1) The word "Dharma" in Hindu sacred literature means "both law and conduct in conformity with law" and (2) "Law gets its authority and sanction only from itself and not from any outside agency that compels obedience to it. Rewards and punishments are within the law itself." My object in this article is only to emphasise and elaborate these distinctive features in the conception of Law by the early Hindu law-givers.

2. Hindu Law, as Mayne points out, has the oldest pedigree of any known system of jurisprudence. The distinction drawn by modern jurists between municipal or positive law, and rules of morality is not seen strictly observed in Hindu jurisprudence. The Hindu Law-givers included rules of law properly so called as well as moral and religious precepts within their broader conception of *Dharma* In some later Smrithis (*e g*), Yagnavalkya) we find the three fold division into *Achara* (ritual), *Vyavahara* (jurisprudence) and *Prayaschitta* (expiation), but this division is not to be found in Manu, who is generally characterised as "more ethical and religious than jural." Nor does the division between *Vyavahara* and *Achara* coincide with that between law and religion; for instance, the law relating to marriage, which is an important branch of every system of jurisprudence, is to be found in the section dealing with *Achara*. The distinction between law and religion is so completely overlooked that purely religious sanctions are provided in more instances than one to enforce obedience to rules relating to civil rights.

3. The reason is to be sought for in the peculiar conception of Dharma by Hindu jurists, a term of much wider connotation than 'Law' and more nearly corresponding to 'jus' or 'recht' or 'droit'. The Hindu Dharma Sastras contain rules not merely regulating his relations to society at large but also intended to guide the Hindu in the conduct of his daily life and it is only natural that many of these precepts which are inculcated with this object in view should be addressed to the moral sense. *Dharma* (धर्म) in Sanskrit is defined to be that which is done under the promptings of spiritual commandments or that through which prosperity here and salvation hereafter are to be attained. Etymologically, "Dharma" signifies that which supports and sustains. From the standpoint of the individual it supports and sustains him through the temptations and vicissitudes of life: from the standpoint of the community, it is the source of its solidarity and strength. The Taitbariya Sruti declares धर्मो विश्वस्य जगतः प्रतिष्ठा—"it is the support of the entire world". *Dharma* thus denotes, among other things, religion, morality, righteousness, duty, the immutable principles of justice and equity, the very principles of a healthy and beneficent life. The ideas expressed by these are closely related to one another. The Hindu Law-givers saw the inter relation and the fundamental unity of the moral and social life of man. They assumed the indissoluble connection of his religious and civil obligations.

4. At the same time, it cannot be asserted that they were unaware of the principle that the province of legal obligation is not co extensive with that of religious or moral obligation. The Hindu sages doubtless saw the distinction, and they have also enunciated certain tests for discriminating between a rule of law and a precept of morality. But no clear line of demarcation is uniformly maintained so as to keep them separate and prevent a confusion of ideas in minds uninstructed in the rules of logic and the canons of interpretation by which they have to be differentiated from one another. The difficulty is enhanced by the fact that the forms of expression generally used in Sanskrit books are the same whether legal or moral obligation be intended. "The mere fact that a transaction is condemned

in books like the Smrithis does not necessarily prove it to be void. It raises the question what kind of condemnation is meant." (I.L.R. 22 Mad. 398 P.C.)

5. This intermingling of moral precepts with rules of law was common to all ancient Codes both in the East and the West. Inspired priests were the legislators of the people and the moral, religious and civil duties of man were mixed up together with little distinction. They mingled religious, civil and moral ordinances without any regard to differences in their essential character and this is consistent with all that we know of ancient law from other sources (*e.g.*, the Mosaic Code and the Twelve Tables), the severance of law from morality and of religion from law belonging very distinctly to the later stages of mental progress. Thus in the Institutes of Justinian we find "'*Jus*' (Justice) is the set and constant purpose which gives to every man his due. Jurisprudence is the knowledge of things human and divine, the science of the just and the unjust. The precepts of the law are these: to live honestly; to injure no one; and to give every man his due."

6. Hindu law does not derive its authority from any political Sovereign. The will of the king is not its originator. It emanates from a higher wisdom. The notion that every law is the command of the Sovereign (so fully developed in the Austinian theory) was never associated with the Hindu ideal of law. The Hindu regards his laws as commands not of any political sovereign but of the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, commands which every political Sovereign is himself most imperatively enjoined to obey. The sanction of law is contained in itself. "Dharma destroys those that violate it. It preserves those that uphold it." (धर्म एव हतो हन्ति, धर्मो रक्षति रक्षितः—Manu). The sanction of law is thus not imposed by any extrinsic agency, but is contained within itself, in the certainty that obedience to law will lead to welfare, its violation to misery. There is no trace in Hindu law literature of the notion that law is a matter of human institution ordained by mere human rulers; that kings have powers of legislation or powers of abrogating existing laws. In the most minute and elaborate description of a king's duties contained in Manu, there is not the slightest trace of, or allusion to, his power of legislation. On the contrary, he is directed to govern and decide disputes "according to the eternal tenets of Dharma." The highest possible ambition of every Hindu ruler was to govern according to primeval law and the most perfect type of administrative ability which the imagination of the Hindu poet could portray was the power "to lead the subjects without the slightest deviation in the beaten track marked out by Manu". (See Raghuvamsa Ch. I Stanza 17.) The writings of the ancient Rishis declare that law is sacred, that it is of divine origin, that it is the revealed word of God, eternal and immutable. There is no power in kings to alter or abrogate the law, for "law is the king of kings, far more powerful and rigid than they: nothing can be mightier than law by whose aid as by that of the highest monarch, even the weak may prevail over the strong." This is the true conception of law according to the Hindus—not a mere fiction, but an article of faith.

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A UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY*

By T. N. SIQUEIRA, S.J.

—:o:—

THOUGH the war is still going on with unabated fury and the Commanders on both sides are being changed and re changed as *if they expected to go on* for some time more, unwarlike professors and politicians are steadily looking forward to the days that are to come after war shall have ceased. They suggest various *recipes for peace, but in their very prescriptions there is a hint of relapses* to come. They put on a brave face as they lay down term after term by which the enemy shall be crushed and pulverized so as never to rise again, they whistle like travellers in a lonely street to show they are not afraid, but in their very cocksureness can one not *detect* a certain trepidation? International Committees and *Cabinets of big four or five or ten are* certainly a guarantee of permanent peace. But why should politicians have the *monopoly* of the prescription? Why should economists have it all their own way in the New World that is being born with the peace treaty? *Educationists too must* butt in and have their say about how to ensure eternal peace on earth to men irrespective of good will.

One of the items in the educationist's prescription *for this endemic epidemic called* war is a university which shall unite all nations and train a new world-minded generation that will never consent to war. This is how he argues. It takes two to make a quarrel—or a war—but one can always end it. If at least one is peace-minded, war will be impossible. Unless *the leaders* of a country are in favour of war, there can be no war. If Hitler, Mussolini, Tojo, Churchill, Roosevelt, Chiang-kai-Shek *had been trained* and educated for peace, there would have been no second world-war. If the parliaments and peoples of the warring parties had been rightly educated, they would have made any number of Munich Pacts rather than allow one Dunkirk or Stalingrad, for a Fuhrer or a Duce or a Comrade cannot and *will not* go to war unless he can carry his people along with him (or before him). *Therefore*, according to strict logic, the only way to ensure peace after the war is to inoculate the rising generation against war. This means a peace orientation to *all stages of education; but most of all* to that stage which immediately prepares leaders of nations—that is, the university.

International University or a United Nations University is thus an item in the challenge of peace. To see how far such *an institution will serve its purpose, it* must first be remembered that a university is a distinct instrument for the education of a nation, quite different from the elementary or secondary school. It is obvious that before a university for peace-loving leaders can be started, the earlier *stages of education must first be also* turned in the same direction. For the *elementary and secondary school period is* much more important in a child's development than the university stage. When the first impressions are received and recorded in the sensitive personality, the environment (which includes persons no *less than things) is of the greatest* influence in shaping the thoughts and tendencies of the future adult. A wrong-headed nationalism was injected into young minds and hearts almost from the time of the Reformation in Europe with its equally wrong-headed understanding of individuality and independence; the French *Revolution was but a milestone in this* long journey, and in our own day we are reaping the harvest which we would not. *All* those *little* but *in* the *long* run important and dangerous stresses on one nation's superiority over another, one race's rights without duties, one country's expansion at another's expense, which were the stock-in-trade of our histories and literatures and even books of science have produced the undesired effect. And only a contrary *and more than equal force can make up* for it. Before the universities, the schools must be internationalized, not in the *sense that they have to be removed* from their natural surroundings and given an unreal all-world outlook, but in the sense that pupils in them should not be brought up in a narrow, proud, or jealous mentality, suspicious of others, fancying their own country the best in the

* By permission of A.I.R., Trichy.

world and despising others, thinking in terms of their own nation only, without reference to the rest of God's creation.

I may say at once, since this is true of a university no less than of a school, that, though it seems paradoxical, internationalism not only does not exclude or contradict nationalism but really presupposes it. Indeed, they are correlative terms, parts or aspects of the same thing. To be truly national, one must be international, *i.e.*, to love one's nation truly, which means to wish and procure whatever is really good for one's country, one must first love all nations, which means that one must wish all nations true and lasting good. And, conversely, to love the whole world and be international-minded and hearted, one must first love one's own country, which is the nearest and best known part of this wide world. The internationalism which, like Lenin's, tears the individual from his natural loyalties to family and town and country to make him a cog in an immense impersonal international machine called the World or Society, defeats its very purpose, like the man who professes to love mankind but hates men, or the orientalist who loves India but hates Indians.

With this distinction in mind, we may discuss the proposal of a United Nations University as a means towards permanent peace. The university would first have to be in a neutral place, so that no nation may seem to consider it as its own or assert too much influence over it. By the way, I don't mean 'neutral' in the war sense but in the sense in which, for instance, the district of Columbia is called neutral. A good suggestion would be Vatican State, though permission might be difficult to get except on certain conditions. Otherwise, the United Nations will have to seek out some unoccupied island not too far from civilisation and not too malarious or tropical.

The status of this university will be like that of any other: it must have a charter and rights to teach as well as to examine and give degrees. But it cannot be just another university with the single distinction of being on no-man's land. It must fulfil by its very curriculum and staff the primary purpose of fostering the international mind and heart in teachers and pupils alike. It must therefore specialize in those subjects and courses which are most conducive to this end. Even science can be misused to fan exaggerated separatism, as the silly quarrels between Newton and Leibnitz about the calculus or the equally silly wrangle between English and French textbooks about whether Priestley or Lavoisier discovered oxygen and whether Boyle's Law is really his or Mariette's show. But at any rate science does not lend itself to such childishness as much as do history and politics and economics and even geography. It is for this very reason that the international university should specialize in such subjects. I would add that it should leave other subjects out altogether, since they are being taught in ordinary universities and are making enough progress under national ambition and competition. But, above all, I should like this international university to specialize in Literature, that most human and universal of studies, that expression of the highest and lowest in man *as man* and not *as* German or Russian or French or Englishman, that subject which either teaches you 'how beauteous mankind is' and 'nothing that concerns man is foreign to me' or teaches you nothing, that subject which under the superficial difference of languages reveals the essential oneness of man in his ideas and feelings and his way of expressing them. If only Literature were more and better taught and studied in our universities, if it were used as a means to educate and not to pervert, there would be little or no war in history. At any rate, the United Nations University must have international literature as its chief subject and make it compulsory on all who enter there.

Whether the students at this University should be under-graduates or post-graduates may be disputed. In an article in the *Fortnightly* a year and a half ago, Bertrand Russell suggested that only post-graduates should be allowed to join it. But I think this is too late for the kind of mental and emotional training we expect from the international university. We take for granted, of course, a curriculum from the lowest stage of the primary school

MR. SASTRI'S LETTERS

By Mr. B. NATESAN

PRIVATE letters of men in public life—how few of these are worth preserving, much less publishing? Words dropped in the heat and passion of the day, things said and done which make us blush at this distance of time, hasty or wrong judgments of men and things which in the light of mellow years seem crude—a sensitive mind is apt to be troubled by these. Yet here is a collection of letters* to politicians, fellow-workers, friends, and relations, covering a period of some 40 years which read as fresh and vivacious as when they were written.

Mr. Sastri's style of writing and speaking has fascinated two generations of young men but Mr. Jagadisan's collection of letters has brought to light an as yet unexplored fountain of pure daylight. The collection appropriately opens with a letter, dated 27th December, 1903, addressed to Gokhale offering his services to the Servants of India Society. His correspondence with Gokhale and Gandhi and V. Krishnaswami Aiyar and a host of other public men and personal friends give a vivid picture of contemporary men and a running commentary on public affairs, which for breadth of outlook and charity in judgment, are thoroughly characteristic. An unrepentant Moderate, Sastri yet sees into the future with the vision of a Prophet and writes dispassionately of the work and worth of the Extremists. Thus in a letter to Mr. Natesan.

> At present the party's *personnel* is rather feeble and it has not risen equal to its own policy. But succeeding generations will contribute more character, virility and persistence to the party, impartial history will perhaps record that every onward step in our liberation was rendered possible by their seeming recklessness and bravado.

This at a time when those whom he considered his mentors had no good word to say of them. The sanity of the man of letters comes to his rescue.

In a letter to V. Krishnaswami Aiyar, Mr. Sastri refers to an incident in the Poona Council where a certain Mr. Logan dared to cast aspersions on Congressmen in the presence of Pherozeshah Mehta. Mehta, drawing himself up to his full height, replied indignantly: "I strongly resent it and I throw it back on his face." Sastri, young and patriotic, was "thrilled." "In one word," he says, "it made me proud that there was a man who could stand up to the full height and speak as an injured gentleman should speak to the injurer. If only each province had two or three such men!" Mehta's courage and independence of spirit is well known: but he was a lone star in the firmament. Luckily, Sastri has lived through the Gandhian era, and must feel exultant that Mehta's "manly bearing" is not a memory of the past but that there are to-day not two or three but hundreds of men and women in India who "are prepared to meet with resolution and grimness the fate that awaits the first patriots that lift up their voice, pen or sword against tyranny." Noble words these—and well fitting some whom Mr. Sastri will readily recognize.

The Gandhi-Sastri letters reveal how political differences have in no way affected their deep-rooted friendship and affection and what liberties Mr. Sastri could take with the leader of the Non-Co-operation movement with perfect understanding and mutual respect.

During the fateful hours preceding the historic fast of 1932, Gandhi wrote to his "dearest friend and brother":

> You have been ever present before me during these days of anguish. I have perhaps read your thoughts You know my regard for you. Though we are as poles asunder, or seem to be, in mental outlook at so many points, our hearts are one.

No wonder that Mr. Mahadev Desai sought Mr. Sastri's help in revising *Gandhi's Autobiography*.

The letters confirm how Gandhi and Mr. Natesan were responsible for Mr. Sastri's decision to accept the Agent Generalship in South Africa. On leaving the South African shores, Mr. Sastri wrote to Mr. Natesan cryptically: "It is not yet time to look back on my work here. But I can't help feeling I have vindicated your choice. You needn't blush for me!"

*Letters of Rt. Hon V. S. Srinivasa Sastri. (Edited by T. N. Jagadisan, Rochouse & Sons, Ltd, Madras. Rs. 6)

His letters to Sir P. S. Sivaswami Aiyar are marked by a deferential regard as to an elder brother, while those addressed to Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri are suffused with affection "as though the old bud of our love had after many years blossomed into a flower of rare beauty and fragrance."

The letters to his daughter, mainly descriptive and full of tenderness and fine feeling, are a pure joy.

Mr. Jagadisan's Preface and his footnotes are helpful and illuminating. We have no doubt that in the next edition, he will be able to give us an even more substantial fare.

URDU DRAMA

BY MR. B. B. JOWHAR

PERSIAN poets who found a forsaken orphan (Urdu) wandering in the streets of Delhi and who left no stone unturned to look to the development of the language from every view-point, did not bestow their care upon the art of drama, and this is one of the many causes that played a most conspicuous role in barring the progress of the art in Islam.

When the last vestiges of Islamic sovereignty were fast vanishing, it was at the instance of Wajed Ali Shah, the Nawab of Oudh, that Amanat, the poet-laureate, wrote in rhymed verse, the first opera in Urdu—The Indar Sabha. Of course, the author's name was kept in the lap of profound secrecy for fear of the then orthodox shortsighted critics.

When the kingdom of Oudh was annexed to British India, the play was staged before a wider public.

The next attempt in this direction was made by the Parsis of Bombay about the close of the last century on modern lines. The names have been completely orientalised and the scenes are laid in the East, the atmosphere having been charged with the ideas taken in the Eastern life. Besides, there are many adaptations from the plays of Shakespeare, as follows:

Romeo and Juliet.
Bazmei Fani in 1900—Ishki Ferouz in 1905.
Gulnar Ferouz in 1902.

Hamlet.
Jehangir in 1895.
Khunei Nahaq in 1901.

Othello and King Lear.
Jafar in 1895—Lala Sita Ram in 1898.

Merchant of Venice.
Chand Shah Sowdagar in 1895.
Venice Ka Sowdagar in 1898.

The Comedy of Errors was rendered into Urdu by Ferouz Shah in 1896 and Lala Sita Ram in 1906.

Mid-Summer Night's Dream.
Jameat-ulfat in 1903.

As You Like It.
Dil pazeer in 1901.

Winter's Tale.
Muridei-Shakh in 1900.

Love's Labour Lost.
Yar on ki Mehnat Burbad in 1899.

Tempest.
Tteerei Nigah in 1897.

Even to-day, the art of drama has not attained to dramatic excellence to any appreciable degree, and this is chiefly due to the traditional prejudice pervading the shortsighted orthodox atmosphere. The stage is still frequented by the mob and the respectable classes fight shy of associating themselves with it.

If men of outstanding renown cultivate a taste for dramatic writing and shake off the age-long prejudice and join the stage-activities, the drama would take, to be sure, a legitimate place in the Islamic Society.

A PAGEANT OF INDIA
BY
ADOLF WALEY

The book is in three parts. The first part deals from the dawn of history upto the end of the golden age of Hinduism The second part deals with the early invasion of India by Mahomedans and the third part with the Moghul conquest and their rule The author has inimitably contrived that the personalities and events of Indian history, from the early Vedic and Upanishadic age to the time of Aurangazeb's death, should pass before the reader with all the pomp of pageantry.

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The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

HOW BRITAIN IS GOVERNED? By R. B. McCallum, Oxford University Press

Democracy, as it obtains in Britain, is a bundle of contradictions There is the king who is said to reign and not to rule, there is the House of Lords, the relic of medieval feudalism; and numberless unwritten laws and conventions that serve as so many checks and balances in the constitution. Yet, it is an indisputable fact that somehow these very incongruities present a system of government which "speaks for the people's will" and translates it into action. It has stood the test of time and circumstance and even the exigencies of war have not made it altogether out of date. The one main reason *is the peoples' acceptance of* or acquiescence in, an institution that has *served them so well through the centuries.* The Crown, Ministers, Parliament and the people are all parts of a whole wherein one cannot be independent of the other. The author gives a luminous account of the working of this constitution, discussing the relationship between the parts that make up the government of Britain. This little pamphlet will prove a welcome addition to the 'students' library of politics and constitutional history.

THE MEMOIRS OF A MAHARAJA'S MISTRESS. *Kitabghar, Rajkot. Rs. 5 8.*

The title is expressive enough and one can guess it is a story of stormy passions and unmitigated vice reaping its dué harvest. It lifts the curtain screening the harem of an Indian ruler, with his strange rendezvous, his bed-rooms and bath rooms which are depicted with stark realism, so as *to make them sufficiently revolting* to the decent and sensitive reader. The *revelations* are made by a repentant woman who had served as a chamber maid in the palace and the extraordinary drama of passion and the perilous path it leads to, are vividly described.

PRACTICE OF KARMA YOGA. By Swami Sivananda. Published by Em. Airi, Editor, "Ideal Home", Amritsar. Rs. 3 8.

This is an exhaustive treatise on Karma Yoga, the path of selfless action and the realisation of Truth by incessantly engaging oneself in the service of humanity. As the name indicates, the treatment of the subject is throughout practical. Lists of virtues to be practised and vices to be shunned are given. The concept of Karma is explained at great length, as also the concept of Svadharma. Reincarnation and Liberation are also discussed. Simplicity characterises the treatment of the subject in this practical guide to Karma Yoga.

LET INDIA FIGHT FOR FREEDOM. *By K. A. Abbas. Sound Magazine Publication, Bombay. Re. 1 8.*

Mr Amery and his ilk are busy trying to make the world believe that Gandhi and Nehru and the Congress are pro-*Fascist. Here is a convincing refutation* of this calumny Mr. Abbas makes it *abundantly clear that there are no more* anti-Fascist men in all the world than the stalwart democrats of the Indian National Congress.

BOOKS RECEIVED

CHITTAVINODINI *or Mental Recreation, being a* collection of witty, epigrammatic, instructive *and descriptive Sanskrit Verses (alphabetically* arranged), compiled, annotated and published by R. N. Ghosh, 7, Ruttledge Road, Lucknow.

SRI KRISHNA AND HIS GOSPEL. By Yogi *Shuddhananda Bharati*, Ramachandrapuram.

THE SECRETS OF SADHANA. By Yogi Shuddhananda Bharati. Ramachandrapuram, Trichy Dt.

KADAMBARI. An adaptation *in Telugu verse from* Bana's original in Sanskrit. By A. Naga Gopala Rao, Governorpet, Bezwada. Rs. 2.

WHO THREATENS CHINA'S UNITY? Edited by Mohan Kumaramangalam. People's Publishing House, Raj Bhavan, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.

POLISH CONSPIRACY EXPOSED. Edited by N K. Krishnan People's Publishing House, Bombay.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Fate of the Finance Bill

THE outstanding feature of the current session of the Central Legislature—particularly of the Assembly—is the number of adjournments and cut motions carried by the House against the Government. This, coupled with the general tone of the debates, has conclusively exposed the pretensions of the Government to represent the will of the people in any way. On top of it all comes the throwing out of the Finance Bill which shows how completely Government have lost the confidence of the people.

In the words of Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, the vote of the House rejecting the Finance Bill, is a vote asking for the removal of the present Government.

That the division went against Government by a majority of only one vote should not mislead anyone. It is really an overwhelming majority of 56 against 18 because 37 of the votes cast in favour of Government are votes of people who were never elected by any constituency but are mere nominees of Government for the purpose of ensuring a mere arithmetical illusion in favour of the Government.

Of course it is in the power of the Viceroy to restore the Bill, as no doubt he will exercise it in the way it has been exercised these many years. But the moral is clear beyond doubt. Congressmen, leaguers and nationalists have with one voice condemned it and the Bill has to be restored in the teeth of that unanimous opposition. In so far as the Assembly has served as a common and effective platform for the expression of this dissent, it has served a useful purpose from the public point of view. Congress attendance has, in this sense, been amply justified. For after all, the Legislative Assembly still remains practically the only forum open to representatives of the public from which to ventilate grievances or expose the irresponsible character of the Government.

Sir Yamin Khan, speaking in the Assembly the other day, observed that the Congress and the Muslim League Parties "had come so far nearer each other as to demonstrate to the world that they had no confidence in the present government" and "that was one step nearer to the wider unity". Indeed the spokesmen of the League did not mince their words in attacking Government's policy. Nawabzada Liaquat Ali, Deputy Leader of the Muslim League Party, stressed his party's complete lack of confidence in the present members of the Government and said that their patriotism, if they claimed any, did not commend itself to their countrymen. He and his party were opposed to the motion, not because they did not want to defend India but because they were not willing to place the country's resources in the hands of an irresponsible and irresponsive government under whose aegis inefficiency and corruption flourished.

Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, Leader of the Congress Party, pointed out that after three and a half years' absence from the House, he had the same declaration to make on behalf of his party as he had made before on a similar occasion in November, 1940, namely,

that the Congress was prepared to defend India and democracy provided a National Government was established at the Centre. In spite of the many events that had happened, the Congress still stood by the spirit behind that statement.

He asked how a government that in no way represented the will of the people could ask the people's representatives for supplies over whose expenditure the people's representatives had no control.

It was open to the Governor-General to certify the Finance Bill and expropriate the people's money and spend it as the Government chose.

Mr. Desai warned the Government that if they wanted to win the war with the people's will behind it,

then they must make it a people's war and that could happen only if the Government chose to act immediately to resolve the deadlock. The offer of the Congress was still open and if the Soldier-Viceroy rejected it, he would be doing so at his and his Government's peril.

Since writing the above (March 29), the Assembly by 56 votes to 45 summarily rejected the Finance Bill in the form recommended by the Viceroy.

Mr. Jinnah's Retreat

The Pakistan idea was originally mooted by Dr. Abdul Latif. Mr. Jinnah, adopting it for purposes of propaganda, has moved so far away from the original scheme that the author of that scheme is left gasping at the Frankinstein of Mr. Jinnah's creation. Consistency has not been Mr. Jinnah's strong point and the evolution of his Pakistan strategy has left many of his followers wondering where he is leading them, after all! In Delhi last year he appealed to the Hindus to agree to divide India and then force the British to quit India. Brave words! Later in Karachi he changed his tune and appealed to the British to "divide and quit."

After the Viceroy's speech he realised that the British are in no mood to oblige him and he has accordingly attempted to accommodate them. In his interview to the *News Chronicle*, Mr. Jinnah says:

> There would be under the new constitution a transitional period for settlement and adjustments during which time British authority, so far as armed forces and foreign affairs are concerned, would remain paramount The length of the transitional period would depend on the speed with which the two peoples and Great Britain adjusted themselves to the new constitution. Finally the two nations would enter into treaties with Britain just as Egypt did when she won her independence.

To the searching question as to what he would do if the British refused to quit on the plea of Hindu-Muslim disagreement, Mr. Jinnah gave the revealing reply:

> That might happen. . . . Even so we should enjoy a degree of autonomy which we do not possess to-day. As a separate nation and a dominion we should at least be in a better position to deal with and possibly reach an agreement with the British Government, which we are not able to do during the present deadlock.

So this is all that he means by his brave slogan "Divide and quit." No wonder that Dr. Latif hits hard in criticising Jinnah and his Pakistan, which like Dominion Status is capable of opportune variations.

Mr. Jinnah now makes it clear that he does not want his Pakistan, be it even for looking after its own defence and foreign affairs He wants for it a no better status than that of a native State without a prince, a mere protectorate at best, developing slowly through an indefinite period of transition into an Egypt, technically independent but dependent for its integrity on the goodwill of England. It is true he thundered from the League platform at Karachi that the Britisher must "divide and quit India" He now explains, he really meant him to divide and stay comfortably both in Pakistan and Hindustan with all his armed forces, and look after their foreign relations as well For his part he says that he would be content with a degree of autonomy which we do not possess

While he is all accommodation to the British lion, he reserves his wrath and thunder to the mild Hindu who is taught to turn the other cheek to the one who smites. Mr. Jinnah is a courageous man!

Japs in Assam Burma Border

H. E. the Commander-in-Chief making a statement in the open session of the Assembly on March 31, for the first time in many years, spoke with complete confidence of the result of the fighting now in progress in Burma.

> "We cannot stop every Japanese thrust as soon as it makes itself apparent, and it is therefore always possible that some of these may succeed in temporarily interrupting our communications," said His Excellency. "I am convinced, however, that the security of Assam has never been in danger. Let alone the security of India. (Cheers.) I feel certain that we shall maintain our forward lines of communication and ultimately drive the enemy back to his original position and beyond."

His Excellency said that the enemy's object appears to be to establish himself before the monsoon in the Imphal-Kohima area and then to attempt to strike at our rail and river communications from Calcutta, along the Brahmaputra, into North-Eastern Bengal.

His Excellency revealed that Allied forces had to move north from Tiddim: "It does not appear, at any rate for the present, that the enemy has any intention of trying to attack Imphal from the south. Tiddim is of no particular strategic value to us, and we did not attempt to hold it.

"Imphal is still in Allied hands. The opinion expressed by an American paper that the fall of Imphal would be of little importance is erroneous. Our Commanders do not intend that Imphal should fall into the enemy's hands."

Debate on the Viceroy's Council

By 50 votes to 48, the Central Assembly passed Mr. Abdul Quaiyum's cut motion to reduce the grant under the head "Executive Council" to one rupee as a mark of "refusal of supplies". Congress, Muslim League and the Nationalists all voted for the motion: and the result of the voting was greeted with excited cheers from the opposition.

But the debate was remarkable for the most outspoken comments on the character of the Government, fully expressing the general and utter lack of confidence common to all elected groups in the Assembly. In this bitter debate, the spokesman of the League was no less emphatic in his denunciation of Government than Congressmen. Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan pointed out in a forceful speech towards the end that the expansion of the Council made no difference to the public attitude towards it and that the Muslim League could not be a party to the perpetuation of the fraud practised upon the world.

Several speakers made charges of incompetence against the Government and of the existence of widespread corruption in several departments and of the Executive Council being a team of mere yes-men.

Even Sir Frederick James who spoke for the Europeans was at best apologetic. Mr. Abdul Quaiyum was downright in his condemnation and described the present Government as an illegitimate offspring of Whitehall and Indian vested interests. Mr. Avanashlingam Chettiar wanted the British Government to realise that Nehru was their best friend, provided free India was allowed to participate in the struggle against the Axis powers. Mr. Neogy devoted the best part of his speech to the manner in which the Ordinance-making powers of the Governor-General was usurping the functions of the Legislature and the Governor-General-in-Council was meekly permitting an all-powerful and dictatorial Viceroy to convert the administration into nothing more than legalised tyranny. Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari said that the Government which had failed to assist industrial concerns and allowed the Allied nations to make Rs. 15 crores profit on sales of gold, deserved no support. Three Executive Council members put up a feeble defence, the Indian Members, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar and Sir Sultan Ahmad, outdoing their European colleague in vehemence and vituperation. Strangely enough the Home Member, Sir Reginald Maxwell, was the least provocative of the three urging that a mere change of Government did not convert the Executive Council into a democratic institution.

Businessmen's Plea to end the Deadlock

It is a mistake to think that it is only the politicians and the Congress-minded public who deplore the deadlock and are anxious to end it. The harm that the continuance of the deadlock is doing the country is fully realised by all responsible elements in India and we are not surprised that hard-headed businessmen who met in Delhi last month realising the enormous damage that irresponsible rule is inflicting on the country, put in a powerful plea to end this deplorable state of things.

Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiar, who presided over the last session of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industries, can hardly be suspected of Congress leanings. A pronounced Justicite he was leader of the opposition in the Congress Government in Madras and was unsparing in his criticism of the Ministry and its measures. Yet what does he say of the situation created by Government's policy—economic and political—in India. In his address to the Federation, he declared:

> The Indian Commercial Community has always held the view that political advancement of the country has much to do with its economic prosperity. Our commercial organisations, although they may eschew active politics cannot remain impervious to the march of events connected with the Indian freedom. We have as patriotic Indians to assist in all legitimate and constitutional efforts that aim at the political progress of the country.

And he went on to add:

> Almost every political party and leader has demanded the release of political leaders, who are now kept in detention. Whatever might have been the justification for detaining these leaders, I feel that the time has come for the Government to release them. They should not be kept in such detention for a moment longer.

That people like him "should have been driven to expose the follies of the present bureaucratic administration only proves, how the Government have steadily lost the confidence of all sections of the people, including their ordinarily staunch supporters."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Churchill Government's First Defeat

ON March 28, the Churchill Government in Parliament suffered the first defeat in its history. By a single vote it lost the division on one clause of the new Education Bill. The defeat caused great sensation at Westminster. But the important constitutional point is that a Government defeat on a minor issue—which is not pressed by opposition as a vote of no confidence in Government or in an individual Minister—while it can prove annoyance to Government, does not carry any serious implications. The Prime Minister, however, has made the defeat in Parliament a constitutional matter of confidence in himself and his Cabinet. Directly the members of Parliament meet at the next sitting, and they will return to the disputed clause of the Education Bill and vote on the Cabinet's decision to reject the anti-Government amendment. If the House of Commons votes against the Government, it will resign. This was the dramatic and uncompromising stand taken by Mr. Churchill in Parliament.

There was no doubt whatever at Westminster that the Government would win a decisive majority in "the confidence" division as it always did in the past.

On the 30th, Parliament met and the Government obtained its vote of confidence in the House of Commons by 425 votes against 23.

Jap Soviet Pact

On the last day of March the Soviet and Japanese Governments signed a protocol whereby Japan agrees to the transfer to the Soviet Government of Japanese oil and coal concession in Northern Sakhalin.

Besides the above protocol, a document was signed giving details about the transfer of the concession and the repatriation to Japan of Japanese nationals engaged in the oil and coal concessions enterprise.

Simultaneously, a Soviet-Japanese protocol signed on March 30, 1944, is also published about the prolongation for five years of the Fisheries Convention of 1928 which fixes changes in Japanese fishing conditions in the Pacific waters of U. S. S. R.

The Cassino Battle

Mr. Churchill stated in the House of Commons on the 28th March that Cassino battle was a failure. But the Allies' withdrawal was successful, says the allied *communique* of March 29th.

Allied troops who have gone back on the defensive in the Cassino sector are now digging in and consolidating their positions. The withdrawal of isolated troops from two hill features under the Monastery was successfully effected under cover of an artillery barrage. The Germans must have known that the withdrawal was being made after the first man left the hill but the barrage described by an army spokesman as "terrific" enabled the movement to be completed without casualties.

Ireland's Stand

Following the U.S.A. note to Eire to disband the German and Japanese legations in Dublin and De Valera's refusal to do so, the British Government have decided that subject to certain exceptions, all travel between Great Britain on the one hand and Northern Ireland and Eire on the other hand must be suspended forthwith for military reasons.

Mr. De Valera affirms his position in a broadcast as follows:

These times of emergency have found our nation, as in other days, with qualities which I feel we can call upon unreservedly today. When external force succeeded and our people were overborne physically, they did not abandon the struggle, nor did they cede their rights or surrender their will. Even in our failures we were in a lasting sense victorious. We outlived the evil that was done to us and we exist today as a separate nation, because we were willing to endure, and were not willing to yield.

German Occupation of Hungary

The German occupation of the whole of Hungary indicates the grim determination of Hitler to see that the history of Italy is not repeated in Hungary. The relentless onward sweep of the Red Army exerting tremendous pressure on the Baltic front, in Poland and in the south simultaneously has evidently driven the Fuehrer to take the desperate step in Hungary.

King Victor drops Imperial Title

King Victor Emanuel has dropped the title of "Emperor of Abyssinia" from his signature. The title was dropped for the first time in a message the king sent to the Italians in Lisbon, says a dispatch.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

ORIGIN OF INDIAN STATES

Reviewing "The Making of the Indian Princes" by Edward Thompson in the *New York Herald Tribune*, Kate L. Mitchell says that the existence of 562 native States scattered through the length and breadth of India whose autocratic rules are guaranteed protection by treaties with the British Crown constitutes one of the major problems to be solved before India can hope to attain unity and independence.

By using many unpublished documents and letters and a secret report of British officials the author reveals military and political activities of the British East India Company during the 20-year period (1799-1819) during which "one local chieftain after another was subdued by force of arms and compelled to accept a status of 'subordinate co-operation'." Thompson emphasises that the men who imposed this system "were clearly aware of its evils."

The reviewer says that among many examples Thompson cites a letter from Sir Thomas Munro to the Governor General Lord Hastings in which Sir Thomas Munro pointed out that

the employment of subsidiary force has a natural tendency to render Government weak and oppressive. The usual remedy for bad government in India is a quiet revolution in the palace or a violent one by rebellion.

One act which stands out clearly in Thompson's record of the confused and turbulent period is that the Indian Princes, as we know them to-day, were established in power by these early British administrators for a definite purpose, namely, "to serve as 'royal instruments without political power' for enforcing British control over the country."

Mitchell concludes:

The history of these early years assumes a new significance when considered in relation to the current British claim that the treaties with the States are inviolable. Thompson's book would be of far greater interest and value if included in some discussion of the position of the Indian States to day inasmuch as continued existence of these strongholds of medieval absolutism is clearly incompatible with development of Democratic Federal Government for India as a whole.

IRAN'S PART IN THE PRESENT WAR

The *Asiatic Review* for January has an interesting article on the above topic by Mr. A. H. Hamzari, Press Attache to the Iranian Legation in London. The writer discusses Iran's contribution to the Allied cause.

The first step in Iran's collaboration with the Allied Powers was the severance of diplomatic relations with the German and Italian Governments and the expulsion of their nationals from Iranian territory in the last quarter of 1941. Later on, similar steps were taken on April 12, 1942, towards the Japanese Government. Thus Iran completely cut herself off from any contact with the Axis Powers

It seems superfluous to try to gauge the important part that Persian oil has played in the furtherance of the common cause. The Persian oil fields in the south of Iran, the fourth biggest oil producing regions in the world, which produced over 10,000,000 tons of oil before the war, have supplied the necessary oil and fuel for British and American forces in nearly all the Middle and Near East and India, and even as far as China. The gigantic refineries at Abadan on the Persian Gulf and the oil-wells in the Gulf regions have been admirably exploited and administered by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, who have, within a period of forty years, turned the vast arid parts in the regions of the oil-wells into highly organized industrial and technical centres, with all the modern amenities of life.

The writer in fine stresses that

special arrangements have been made between the Iranian Government and the Allied Powers to meet the colossal expenditure of the British, American and Soviet forces in Iran, which runs into millions of pounds. Here again many natural difficulties arose, and it was feared that owing to the colossal expenditure of the Allies in Iran inflation would swamp the country. Strict measures have been taken by the Iranian Government to stop prices rising any higher, and effective assistance has been rendered by the British and American Governments in importing gold to the country and selling it to the public in order to stabilize the currency and to allay their fears of inflation. The rise of prices has now stopped, but in order to realize the privations endured by the majority of the people in Iran, it is sufficient to mention that the cost of living in Iran now, as compared with that of 1939, is up by nearly 700 per cent. This figure, compared with the rise of the cost of living in all other countries of the world, makes Iran the most expensive place to live in today.

GERMANY AFTER THE WAR

What sort of treatment should be meted out to Germany after the fall of Hitler is discussed by the famous German author Emil Ludwig in *Maclean's Magazine*, Toronto.

A strong Army of occupation, formed by the United Nations, should hold all prominent places in Germany so that the people will know, for the first time since Napoleon, what a foreign authority looks like Only thus can they be brought to understand that they have been defeated.

While the Junkers, in Prussia and then in the Empire, have held the leading posts for the past 300 years in the Army and Government, the common people have been excluded from them. Accordingly, they have gone into business or entered the field of science, music, or philosophy. The interesting point is that these common people or "bourgeois" did not resent the arrangement. The philosophers and writers lived, as it were, on a dreamy island, and, as the ship of State passed them by, they saluted it and said "It's a good thing that we are not responsible for the State." That is the reason why Germany is the only country in Europe which has not had a successful revolution in all her history. No one from the nobility has ever helped to build up the true greatness of Germany, as civilisation knows it. On the other hand, hardly anybody from the bourgeoisie, up to 1918 ever held an important German Government position.

The mistake of Versailles was a mistake in understanding the psychology of the Germans. The victors believed the Germans would become liberal and set up a democratic state overnight, without the tradition for it and without previous education They left them complete freedom and later relaxed the rigours of the treaty But the Germans do not understand a "gentleman's agreement". The word "gentleman," like the word "fair,' is always used in the English form by Germans, they have no equivalent words in their rich language They love order, not human understanding They are the only people in modern history who have a passion for obedience. They love compliance better than they love liberty.

The Germans must come within the scope of the Atlantic Charter They must retain their own German provinces They are entitled to their own raw materials. They should have their factories working, their scientists and chemists busy and their sport lovers at play Their music and industry are their own They should share in the competition of the world. But take away their weapons, supervise their education, and give them political guardianship, because they have shown the world that they are not able to govern themselves If you do not do that, if you continue to speak of the "poor misled German people", if you treat them after the defeat in your old, good, puritan spirit—then your sons will have to fight the Third World War against the warlike people of the Germans

LORD WAVELL'S SPEECH

The magazine *Amerasia* commenting on Lord Wavell's speech before the Indian Legislature on February 17, strongly criticises his contention that Indian disunity alone is preventing the advance to self-government.

Admitting that the Congress and the Muslim League appeared "hopelessly divided" over the issue of Pakistan following the Cripps mission, it says that since then

there have been a steady growth of unity in India. . . All reports from India indicate that the Congress and the League are drawing closer together on the question of complete self-determination for the minorities and the major obstacle to a final agreement is the fact that chief Congress leaders are held incommunicado. This highly important development is completely ignored by Lord Wavell . . . The major fault in Lord Wavell's speech is that it does not apply to the present situation in India. Conditions of August 1942 no longer exist Important Hindu and Muslim leaders now recognize both the necessity and possibility of reaching a political agreement among themselves and also the need for immediate action to combat the growing frustration and bitter apathy among the Indian people. It would seem that in view of Lord Wavell's desire to see India attain unity and self-government at the earliest possible moment he might at least give India's leaders, both in and out of jail, an opportunity to get together and discuss their problems.

INDIAN ATTITUDE TO JAPAN

All happenings in the Far East since the war began have swung Indian feeling, as far as one can judge, to active hatred of the Japanese, states Sir Alfred Watson in an article in *Great Britain and the East*. Among Indian Muslims, he adds, there has never been any warmth towards the Japanese in spite of the Japanese effort to cultivate the good feeling of Islam by allowing the setting up of Mosques in Japan itself. Hinduism must inevitably come into conflict with the Shinto of Japan at every point of contact. "Co-prosperity as interpreted by Japan would shatter and destroy Indian nationalism. It would permanently forbid that industrial leadership of the East to which many Indians aspire. Understanding of these things accounts for the growing antipathy to Japan among all Indians who express any opinions at all."

CONGRESS-LEAGUE SETTLEMENT

The only way to get British willingness is by an honest and satisfactory settlement with the Muslim League. Until we recognise this, all talk of Indian Independence is pure literary or rhetorical exercise," says Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar in the course of an article in the *Hindustan*, an English weekly edited by Mr. Gopinath Srivastava, Parliamentary Secretary for Publicity in the Congress Ministry.

"A settlement with Mr. Jinnah," adds Mr. Rajagopalachariar,

is, I believe, possible. I do not justify all his policies or his terms or even his general attitude But we cannot find a way to Independence without a settlement with the Muslim League Dealing with facts, and functioning in the present, those who desire a Free India must deal with the League.

Mr. Rajagopalachariar continues:

I say that a settlement with the Muslim League is possible, because its demand for the right to separate is not a claim for tribal sovereignties, but is linked to definite territorial units to be delimited with regard to contiguity and homogenity of population. The claim is made conditional on the definitely expressed desire of the population of such areas. It is not demanded that separation should be effected without a right of appeal to the people of the area concerned. There are here no problems that are incapable of solution by negotiation and agreement.

"It is only by agreement," he goes on, "that we can build up a strong Central Government.

It is only by conceding the right of self-determination to every sizable homogeneously peopled area that we can bring into being an undivided Hindustan. To maintain a united India with disunited provinces is possible only if we accept the active and effective control of a foreign Power. To keep a strong Central Government in real power checking all dissenting units, we require the British Power, with an army of occupation.

Mr. Rajagopalachariar pleads that they should arrive at a settlement with the League and force a situation that will create and foster British willingness to agree to an interim Government apart from post-war settlement. The Soviet decree granting autonomy to every unit confederated in the U.S.S.R., he says, has a lesson for Indian politicians and nation-builders. Those who raise the Liberal slogan of a "strong Government" or the Hindu Mahasabha slogan of an "Undivided Hindustan," both ask, in effect, for a continuance and permanent entrenchment in India of the British Government.

THE BENGAL FAMINE

We welcome the *Hindoosthan*, the new illustrated quarterly, edited by Sir N. N. Sircar and published at Calcutta. In the first number that is before us, Sir Nripendra presents a collection of articles and drawings of outstanding interest. Among the writers are Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Sir Mirza Ismail, Sir B. L. Mitter, Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha and others; while a short story of Rabindranath's rendered into English for the first time adds distinction to the number. Among other attractions are the coloured pictures of Abanindranath and Jogendranath Tagore, and line drawings and wood cuts by the well-known artist, Mr. E. M. Sen. The editor himself writes a trenchant article on the Bengal Famine which he concludes with these significant words:

I venture, however, to suggest that memories of the Bengal famine of 1943 are likely to help movements which may gather momentum for establishing an advanced State Socialism or Communism, and the amount of its success will be in direct proportion to the inability of the present Government to improve the condition of the masses, and free them from dirt, disease and poverty and save them from starvation. How far ideas of Communism have spread in India I do not quite know, nor am I aware whether Communism is favoured or frowned at by the authorities. It is easy to believe that while detesting Communism, the powers that be find in the Communists a useful weapon for handling labour, for propaganda for war-efforts, and a handy stick to beat the Congress with.

THE AFTERNOON TEA

"That afternoon cup of tea! If we were suddenly to revert to uncivilized life, there's no item on the menu, I think, that would be so universally missed, says a writer in the *Times of India*.

"Some men have a fondness for liquor; some like a pipeful of nicotine, some avidly chew betelnut, whilst others chew candies, but all of us, of all classes of society, rich and poor alike, young and old, drink tea and would find days deprived of it irksome and wearisome.

"Its refreshing and stimulating qualities are badly needed in the lives of stress and strain that most of us live today. There's nothing like a cup of piping hot tea to put fresh heart into the most flagging spirits, revivify the most weary minds."

DIARY OF THE MONTH

March 1. Red Army launches new offensive south of Narva on the Estonian border.

March 2. Bulgaria asks British and United States *re.* armistice terms.

—Russians encircle Narva.

March 3. President Roosevelt announces that Italian warships are to be sent to the Soviet Navy.

March 4. The 17th session of Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce meets at New Delhi.

March 5. Soviet Armistice terms are offered to Finland.

March 6. Budget debate opens in the Central Assembly

March 7. Commander-in Chief announces in the Upper House increase in army pay.

March 8. Leaders' appeal for a 75 lakhs memorial to Kasturba.

March 9. University of Delhi welcomes Persian Cultural Mission.

March 10 Maharaja of Kashmir accepts invitation to attend War Cabinet

—Mr. Mudie appointed Home Member.

March 11. Chinese goodwill mission arrives in Delhi.

—Eire rejects U. S. note to close German and Japanese legations.

March 12. Rt. Hon. Sastri speaking in Bombay urges release of leaders and holding elections.

March 13. Central Assembly carries cut motion censuring Viceroy's Council.

March 14. Mr. Churchill warns Eire.

March 15. Central Assembly carries motion censuring use of D. I. R. by 53 to 44 votes.

—Editors' Standing Committee meets in Delhi, Mr. S. A. Brelvi presiding.

March 16. Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar, Advocate General, Madras, resigns.

—Naval landing in Arakan by the Allies.

March 17. Government's reply *re.* censorship to A.I.N E. Conference is published.

March 18. 2,000 U.S. Planes raid Germany.

—All India Manufacturers' Conference meets at Nagpur.

March 19. Japs bomb Imphal area.

—Persian Cabinet resigns.

—Russians enter Bessarabia.

—Russians capture Chervons—Armeisk, Radziwilow and Vinnista.

March 20. Lava from Vesuvius flares up and destroys several villages.

—U. S. planes raid East Java.

March 21. Finnish Government rejects Russian terms.

—Nazis occupy Hungary.

March 22 Japs cross Indo Burma Frontier.

March 23 Allied air offensive in the Pacific begins.

March 24. Major General Nawab Sir Umar Hyat Khan Tiwana is dead.

March 25. Severe fighting in the Indo-Burma Frontier is reported.

—Japs bomb Cox Bazaar area.

—Russians capture Balti.

March 26. Churchill's broadcast to the Nation.

—Axis evacuation of Crimea.

March 27 Finance Bill is thrown out in Assembly by 56 to 55 votes.

March 28. Assembly again rejects the recommended Finance Bill by 56 to 45.

—Government defeat in the Commons *re.* Education Bill.

March 29. Russians enter Rumania.

—Allies' withdrawal from Monastery Hill in Cassino Front.

March 30. Mr. Suresh Vaidya is sentenced to 98 days' R I. at the Canterbury Court Martial.

—The Government obtains its vote of confidence in the House of Commons by 425 votes against 23.

—Russians take Cernauti.

March 31. H.E. the Commander-in-Chief makes a statement in the Assembly *re.* Jap thrust in Manipur State.

INDIAN STATES

—:o:—

Hyderabad

STATE WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

"A great evil which prevails among the people is the marriage of young girls. In our Dominions, there are eleven lakhs of widows. Child widows below twelve years of age number over ten thousand. This casts a slur on the community and it should be eradicated," said Begum Zaher Yar Jung, presiding over the sixteenth session of the Hyderabad State Women's Conference held last month.

Begum Zaher Yar Jung also referred to the 'purdah' system and said: "The 'purdah' has been assuming a great importance in our social life. It should not outstrip the bounds of religion. Unless the women of a country move with its men, that country will make no progress. The history of Islam and the history of India contain many achievements of women."

The Conference passed a resolution mourning the death of Mrs. Kasturba Gandhi and tendering its heart-felt condolences to Gandhiji and his family.

Another resolution condemned the practice of educated women marrying men during the lifetime of their first wives.

NAWAB OF CHHATARI'S ADVICE

The suggestion that those whose mother-tongue was Urdu should learn other languages spoken in the State was made by the Nawab of Chhatari, President of H. H. the Nizam's Executive Council, when presiding at the annual prize distribution at the Nizam's College. The question of a language, said the Nawab of Chhatari, should never be made a political issue. We must try and learn various languages and dialects which might be of value. He also stressed the importance of studying English and said: "It is a step forward to make one of the languages of the country the medium of instruction, but it does not mean we should neglect English."

The Nawab appealed to students to join the armed forces in larger numbers.

Mysore

MYSORE IRRIGATION PLAN

Mr. J. Md. Imam, the Minister for Public Works in Mysore, toured the Shimoga district from December 2 to 8, inspecting the irrigational works in progress, as also the Jog Hydro-electric works. The Special Committee of Civil Engineers appointed to advise Government on the work of the Jog Hydro-electric scheme held their quarterly meeting at Jog and the Minister presided.

The Minister discussed with the ryots and the officers the Thunga project, the Selekere project, the Kaggehalli Anicut, the Bhadra Anicut, the Lakkavalli reservoir across the river Bhadra and a number of bridges proposed to be constructed. Government, he said, were eager to push through as early as possible the several irrigation projects so that Mysore might become self-sufficient in the matter of food-grains.

MYSORE INDUSTRIAL BOARD

With a view to widening the scope of activities in the field of industrial research, which is of vital importance to the industrial development of the State, and to maintain more effective contact with the Board of Industrial and Scientific Research of the Government of India, the Government of Mysore have reconstituted the Board of Industrial Planning and Co-ordination in Mysore under the name of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research. The eight members under the chairmanship of Mr. M. A. Srinivasan, Minister for Industries and Supplies, include Sir C. V. Raman, Sir J. C. Ghosh and Sir M. O. Forster.

NEW MYSORE LOAN

The Government of Mysore have issued a new series of their three per cent. (1956-61) security Loan of the nominal value of Rs. 2,00 00,000 as an anti-inflationary measure and as a feeder to the Government of India Fourth Defence Loan. The whole of this issue has been taken over by Government for their general investment account and it has no reference whatsoever to the present financial needs of the State for industrial or other purposes.

Travancore

LATE PRINCE RAMA VARMA

The death of Prince Rama Varma, First Prince and nephew of H. H. the Maharaja of Travancore, which occurred at Trivandrum on March 21, is deeply regretted. The Prince's age was only 6.

TRAVANCORE LEGISLATURE

The Sri Mulam Assembly and the Sri Chitra State Council have been dissolved from March 1, by H. H the Maharaja of Travancore, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 9 (A) of the Travancre Legislative Reforms Act II of 1198.

Discussing at a press conference the reasons which weighed with Government in deciding upon dissolution of Legislature, the Dewan said fresh elections could not be further postponed on account of shortage of petrol because war with Japan on a modest computation was not likely to end for a couple of years more and we could not wait indefinitely. The Legislature had had successive extensions. Arguments about the need for fresh blood among members cannot be indefinitely resisted. It would also give members an opportunity of ventilating legitimate demands and grievances such as they were in their election campaigns.

TRAVANCORE SALARIES

The Travancore Government feel that the war allowances now granted to officers drawing salaries up to Rs 100 are not commensurate with the existing level of prices. They have therefore sanctioned enhanced rates of war allowance for them according to a certain scale, in addition to any other advantages they may obtain under the revision scheme. The scale for officers drawing above Rs. 100 per month and up to Rs. 112 and for officers in the scale of Rs. 100 5-125 has also been laid down.

Government have also decided that the minimum salary of peons and menial servants in the capital and other expensive towns should be Rs. 14 per month, in other urban centres Rs. 11 and in the villages Rs. 10.

Baroda

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

For the development of cottage industries, various ways and means are employed by the Government of the State to encourage handicrafts. A Cottage Industries Institute was established to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of the late reign, in which training is specialised in calico-printing, block engraving, lacquer work, metal and leather work processes and brass metal and wood engraving. The Government also give grants-in aid to private institutions, which promote the development of cottage industries, besides awarding scholarships and loans, and starting a large number of classes under their auspices in villages where they circulate from term to term. These demonstration classes specialise in handloom weaving (at 5 centres) in which respect new designs and new kinds of articles are being introduced, in carding and spinning (at 4 centres), in calico-printing (at 3 centres), in improved methods of bark tanning (at 12 centres), and in silk demonstration (at 2 centres). Government aid is also given in the shape of annual grants to institutions like the Khadi Karyalaya, the Sarvodaya Mandir, etc, and in the shape of loans to individual entrepreneurs to start local effort in their villages.

BARODA LIBRARIES

There are 1,294 libraries in the Baroda State. Of them there are 46 town libraries, 1,219 village libraries and 29 institutions exclusively catering for the needs of women and children. The figures generally show the progress since the last two decades. The average number of books per library is now 870 which was 920 in 1930 31, 680 in 1920 21. The number of institutions have increased by 79 per cent., stock of books by 58 per cent. and number of readers by 145 per cent. in the last ten years. This growth of the movement; particularly in the numbers of its beneficiaries, is nothing less than phenomenal.

In addition to fixed libraries, the department maintains 622 travelling library boxes which were circulated to 875 centres in 1939 40, amongst 10,381 readers. This section also circulated 26,287 stereographs through 101 centres.

Patiala

PATIALA EXHIBITION

The declaration that his Government was exceedingly anxious to promote large-scale industries in the State and that the industrialists and financiers could expect every kind of help and co-operation was made by His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala while performing the opening ceremony of the 5th Patiala Exhibition on March 7. His Highness said that it was only by effective integration of industrial development and agricultural expansion that India could have a self-reliant national economy. He expressed appreciation of the work of the Development Department and hoped that the State, notwithstanding the war, would be able to maintain and expand its beneficent activities.

Sirdar Fazley Haque Khan, Development Minister, gave a comprehensive account of the activities of his Department and revealed that the State would shortly have a sugar factory and added that prospecting licences had been given for the exploration of iron, copper and silver mines in the State.

Bharatpur

STATE ADMINISTRATION

Constitutional Reforms: The elections for the Brij Jaya Pratinidhi Samiti were held during the year. The Samiti was inaugurated by His Highness the Maharaja Sahib Bahadur on the 4th October, 1943 and its first session was held from the 4th to 8th October, 1943.

Constitution of Brij Jaya Pratinidhi Samiti: The Samiti consists of 30 members, elected from the rural and seven from the urban areas, seven nominated non-officials and six nominated officials.

Revenue and Expenditure: The total income of the State, including assigned revenues, amounted to Rs. 50,87,579, which was a record figure for the State against Rs. 25,56,335 in the preceding year. The total expenditure of the State amounted to Rs. 48,36,259 against Rs. 30,89,748 in the preceding year. A total sum of Rs. 12,26,044 was paid towards repayment of Morvi Loan against Rs. 2,46,118 only in the preceding year. The year closed with a balance of Rs. 5,68,500.

Junagadh

IRRIGATION IN JUNAGADH

Junagadh State has earmarked Rs. 1,88,000 for financing flood control measures calculated to press the overflow currents of rivers into the service of agriculture. Rs. 1,50,000 has been allocated for the sinking of new wells in villages.

It is claimed that this is the first occasion in the annals of the State budget when it has shown a surplus of Rs. 5·45 lakhs and the total income has attained a record of Rs. 114·10 lakhs.

Rewa

NEW ADMINISTRATION IN REWA

The Maharaja of Rewa, having accepted certain specific conditions, the Crown Representative is taking up necessary steps to secure the setting up of a new administration in the State. His Highness has agreed to appoint Mr. E. B. Wakefield, I.C.S., as his Chief Minister and R. B. Tara Chand, I.P.S., as Inspector-General of Police. This has been announced in a *communique*.

Kashmir

THE FUTURE OF KASHMIR

A comprehensive industrial survey, formation of a competent industrial board, proper economic planning of the State and a careful examination of the question of finding industrial finance these suggestions for the economic uplift of the State were offered by Dr. R. K. Bhan, Director of Statistics and Economic Intelligence, in his evidence before the Commission of Enquiry set up by His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir.

Jawhar

INDUSTRIES IN JAWHAR

The growing industrialisation of Jawhar State by the opening of several new factories for different industries was referred to by Mr. S. T. Raja, Dewan of Jawhar State, performing the opening ceremony of the new Balaram Mills at Karadaho, five miles from Dahanu. Mr. Raja added that Jawhar already had several rice mills, and that a starch manufacturing factory would shortly be opened at Karadaho along with a paper and card-board mill.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

Leros

INDIANS IN LEROS

With the small Allied force in the recent Battle of Leros were Indian soldiers who fought gallantly in the defence of this Aegean out post.

Reports describe the Indian soldiers as particularly active in attacking parachutists and 'planes. Indian personnel on Leros included a company of sappers and miners, and supply units of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps.

Japan

INDIAN PRISONERS IN JAPAN

There are approximately 76,000 Indian troops, who are prisoners of war or are believed to be prisoners of war in Japanese hands, says a statement which the C.-in-C. laid on the table in the Council of State. Of this total, some 5,000 belonged to the Hong Kong and Singapore Royal Artillery. Despite every effort made on the part of Protecting Powers and Delegates of the International Red Cross Committee, information regarding the fate of these prisoners and the conditions under which they are being held, has been withheld deliberately by the Japanese.

Germany

INDIAN WAR PRISONERS IN GERMANY

Greetings for the relatives of 850 soldiers of the R. I. A. S. C., all Punjabi Mussalmans, who are prisoners in Germany, are brought to India by Major T. W. P. Hexley, who was captured with them but escaped, says a press note.

Major Hexley has just arrived in India with 2,000 R. I. A. S. C. men who have been in England since the fall of France, when they escaped with the British Expeditionary Force. He told an Indian Army Observer about the men's life in their German prison camps.

"Their morale is very high," he said. "Life is of course dull and dreary but it is not hard. Their health is fairly good. They get the same rations as the British troops. They live in huts or barracks. The Germans treat them quite well."

Australia

SYMPATHY WITH INDIA'S AIMS

Mr. M. S. Aney, Government of India's representative in Ceylon, and the Indian Mercantile Chamber, gave a reception to the Australian High Commissioner-Designate in India, Lt.-Gen. Sir Ivan Giffard Mackay and Lady Mackay *en route* to India to take up the appointment, at Colombo on March 6.

Speaking at the reception where Mr. Aney welcomed him on behalf of the Government of India, Sir Ivan said that Australia sympathised with India's political aspirations and Australians would earnestly endeavour to do their utmost to bring about mutual and lasting friendship between the two countries. He paid tribute to the services rendered by Indian troops and said: "They have been largely responsible for much of the success that has been achieved so far."

South Africa

INDIANS IN NATAL

The Prime Minister's reply to the request of Indian ex-servicemen that franchise be included in the terms of reference of the proposed Natal Indian Commission as an unsuitable question is causing concern in Indian political circles.

The Secretary of the Natal Indian Congress, Mr. P. R Pather, in an interview, said that at their recent conference one of the conditions of the resolution accepting the Commission was that the question of the political status of Indians should be included in the terms of reference. "If General Smuts insists on imposing his attitude of excluding the question of franchise in the terms of reference, then we shall have no alternative but to reconsider our previous decision in the light of this development."

A meeting of the Congress Committee has been called to consider the Prime Minister's reply.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS ✱ DEPARTMENTAL ✱ NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

GANDHIJI'S LEADERSHIP

Complete faith in the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi "who alone can speak in the name of the Congress and whose continued incarceration is a symbol of India in chains," is reiterated in a statement by prominent U.P. Congressmen who met at Allahabad on March 15.

"We owe it to him and other comrades in prison to do what little we can to dispel the atmosphere of depression which is the dominant feature of public life to-day." . . . "Nothing can absolve us from the duty of trying to serve our countrymen according to our lights to the very limited extent that is possible in the circumstances in which we find ourselves. It was this belief which prompted us to call the present informal meeting."

LONDON COMMITTEE'S INSTRUCTIONS

After restating the attitude which an Indian Congressman is expected to take towards military conscription in Britain, a pamphlet issued by the Committee of Indian Congressmen adds:

If the stand is taken on the ground that though not a pacificist, as a Congressman he cannot take part in the British war effort and, therefore, cannot join the British armed forces, the person concerned will not in all probability be granted exemption from military service by tribunals for conscientious objectors. He will then be asked to submit to a medical examination and if he refuses to do so will be brought before an appropriate court for trial and conviction. A Congressman does not plead for mercy or clemency. He does not seek any political concession from the British raj. In vindication of his faith he goes to prison, if need be, and thereby lays the foundation of free India.

LEND-LEASE AID

Mr. Leo T. Crowley, U.S. Foreign Economic Administrator, gave detailed figures on Lend-Lease aid to India. The aid totalled 114,151,000 dollars. The details are as follows: Military stores and equipment 6,598,000 dollars; Transportation and Communications 7,627,000 dollars; Petroleum products 40,652,000 dollars; Construction 43,033,000 dollars; Subsistence and miscellaneous 16 541,000 dollars.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

LIN YU-TANG ON UNITY

The freedom of India was primarily India's responsibility, said the well-known Chinese Scholar and Philosopher, Dr. Lin Yu-Tang, in an address to students of Calcutta University on March 15.

He said that India had so far failed to achieve her freedom because as a nation she did not want it badly enough.

When the whole of India wants freedom and wants it badly enough and is willing to place it above everything else, that very moment India can take her freedom as easily as one turns the palm of one's own hand.

Dr. Lin added that he who sinned against India as a national unity sinned against the Freedom of India. There was a perfect formula to continue to live under foreign subjection—to be divided and to be ruled.

I do not say that sectional differences are entirely of your own making, but I do say that there are still Indian leaders who are not willing to place the Freedom of their country above sectional and factional interests. It means that they do not want Freedom and are willing to be divided and ruled: Indians must love India as a whole and not as a part of it. They must love her and regard her as a national, cultural, economic, historical and geographical unity. Those who love India must want to be fused and integrated into a greater and greater national unity and cultural homogeneity.

CHURCHILL ON "SURRENDER"

Explaining the implications of the word "unconditional surrender" in his review of the war in the House of Commons, Mr. Churchill, the British Premier, said:

There will be no question, for instance, of the Atlantic Charter applying to Germany as a matter of right, and barring territorial transferences or adjustments in enemy countries. No such arguments will be admitted by us as were used by Germany after the last war, saying that they surrendered in consequence of President Wilson's Fourteen Points.

Unconditional surrender means that the victors have a free hand. It does not mean that they are entitled to behave in a barbarous manner nor that they wish to blot out Germany from Europe. We are bound by our own conscience to civilisation.

EDITORS' DEMAND FOR GANDHIJI'S RELEASE

One hundred and twelve editors of newspapers, drawn from different parts of the country and representing different shades of political opinion, addressed a letter to the Government urging the imperative need for releasing Mahatma Gandhi and other action as may be necessary to end the political deadlock and establish a representative National Government.

The following is the text of the letter

"We, the undersigned editors of newspapers, drawn from different parts of the country and representing different shades of political opinion, feel it incumbent on us to invite Your Excellency's pointed attention to the existence of widespread discontent in the country and distrust of British intentions. The continuance of the political deadlock and the unparalleled misery into which certain parts of the country have been plunged by economic distress and shortage of food constitute a *serious menace to the internal peace* and the security of the country. We feel that everything possible should be done by all parties concerned to resolve the political deadlock and for the better defence of India such a step cannot be further delayed While offering our fullest co operation towards the achievement of the above end, we strongly urge on the Government the imperative need for releasing Mahatma Gandhi and other political leaders and taking such other action as may be necessary to enable all parties to make their contribution towards the ending of *the deadlock and the* establishment of a representative national government."

INDIA, BRITAIN AND AMERICA

In the Central Assembly on March 20 Mr. Abdur Rashid Chaudhury (Assam) expressed doubts if all that was necessary to defend the Eastern frontiers of India was being undertaken by Government. Everyone, Mr. Chaudhury said, wanted to exploit India and it seemed as though there was a partnership between H. M. G., the Dominions and the U.S.A. in the exploitation of this country.

PRIORITY FOR EDUCATION

Urging that education should have priority among *schemes of reconstruction* now being considered, Sir Radhakrishnan said in the course of his convocation address to the Calcutta University that social security, communications, health and sanitation were all important, but education which was concerned with the making of man was most important. Mr. Sargent's scheme gave a comprehen*sive scheme of education for all stages* from childhood to maturity and attempted to make the educational system organic to the community.

It was a long term national enterprise and its full realisation would take at least a generation and demand the sustained efforts of the community and effective co-operation between the Government and other agencies. If India was not to lag behind other progressive countries the scheme must be put through.

Sir Sarvapalli asked "How can the national wealth of the country be increased if we are not given the education which alone can equip us to increase the wealth. The expense must be incurred and the money found.'

POST-WAR EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Educational leaders of the United States and 30 other countries ended their four-day meeting of the International Education Assembly at Harpers Ferry (W. Virginia) by voting unanimously to establish an International Commission for Education and Cultural Development which is designed to help in rebuilding schools programmes throughout the world.

Among the Commission's objectives are these: to co operate with governments of war-devastated countries in rebuilding educational programmes after the war; to assist countries requesting help to develop their education and cultural institutions; to eliminate educational and cultural activities which threaten the peace; to help all nations to eliminate illiteracy; encouragement in establishing international institutions for training educational and cultural leaders.

FEDERAL COURT APPEAL

Their Lordships of the Federal Court, giving judgment in the Ghogha Railway station burning case, allowed the appeal of Sahdeo Gosain and one other and directed their acquittal and immediate release. Their Lordships were satisfied that the complicity of neither of the appellants in the incident of August 14, 1942, had been established beyond reasonable doubt. The appellants were alleged to be members of a crowd who raided the Ghogha railway station on the East Indian Railway and burnt records and destroyed or damaged the furniture and telephone equipment. The men were put on trial in respect of this occurrence before the Special Judge, Bhagalpore. They were convicted and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The two appellants, whose appeals were dismissed by the High Court, appealed to the Federal Court.

SUPREME COURT FOR INDIA

The proposed establishment of a Supreme Court in India was referred to by Sir Patrick Spens, Chief Justice of India, addressing the members of the Lahore High Court.

His Lordship, after referring to the circumstances which had rendered the constitution of a Supreme Court urgent, said that on its constitution or recruitment, he could give no guarantee. If he was the Head of the Court and he was to constitute a bench of three judges to deal with Hindu Law, Muhammadan Law and Commercial Law, it seemed to be quite impossible to get a bench to which judges were not recruited because of their professional knowledge. How could any bench to which judges were not recruited because of their professional knowledge command any respect.?

MADRAS ADVOCATE-GENERALSHIP

Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar, Advocate-General, has submitted his regignation to the Government of his office to take effect from July 10, 1944, the date of the reopening of the Madras High Court after the summer recess. Sir Alladi was appointed to the place on January 7, 1929.

It is officially announced that Mr. P. V. Rajamannar has been appointed Advocate-General, Madras, in succession to Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Aiyar.

TAXES ON INSURANCE COMPANIES

"The proposal in the Finance Bill of 1944 for fixing a limit of taxation of life insurance companies at 63 pies to the rupee, being the combined rate of income-tax and super-tax applicable to companies for the year 1942-43, will be hailed with satisfaction by insurance companies in India", says the *Capital*. The Bill further provides that the concession will have retrospective effect from 1943 and any excess paid will be refunded. This is a much-needed relief, considering the high rate of income-tax now prevailing, and has been granted as a result of prolonged representations made to Government by insurance companies in the last few years. The relief proposed to be granted, however, does not meet fully the demand of insurance companies who advocated that the ceiling should be fixed at the 1940 41 level, *i.e.*, at 45¾ pies to the rupee, on the analogy of the relief granted to insurance companies by the British Government, which fixed the limit at the 1940 level of 7sh. 6d. in the £. Representations for further relief are, therefore, likely to continue to be made, as was indicated in the recently passed resolution of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

WAR RISKS INSURANCE

The Central Government, says a *communique*, has decided that the rate of premium payable under policies issued under the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Scheme, the period of which has been extended up to the 31st March, 1945, shall be fixed at the reduced rate of one per cent. of the insurance value of the property calculated to the nearest anna on each complete sum of Rs. 100 for the year ending 31st March, 1945. This premium will be payable in four equal instalments on 1st April, 1st June, 1st September and 1st December, 1944.

ORIENTAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY

The amount of New Life Assurance Business written by the Oriental during 1943 was 58,012 Policies assuring Rs. 15,00,69,050. This figure while showing an increase of about Rs. 5½ crores in the sum assured over the figure for 1942 constitutes a new record for the Company.

INDIA AND WAR FINANCE

The present inflationary policy of the Government of India was criticised by Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetti in his address to the members of the Madras Presidency College Union Society last month.

The credit which was now standing in the name of India in England, said Sir Shanmukham, was brought about, they must remember, not out of any generosity of Britain towards India, but it was the result of India's suffering and privations which the people bore in prosecuting this war. Apart from the constitutional tangle and political wrangle in which they were now engaged, the economic stakes of India were vital and far-reaching.

Sir Shanmukham explained how the inflation in India had begun to affect the people. While the price level in other countries engaged in the war had been kept under check and had not risen to more than 25 per cent. the Government of India unfortunately did not take timely measures for the control of prices The Government of India had begun only within the last few months to tackle this problem. The result was that people were suffering a great deal Judged from actual sufferings and privations of the people, the war burden borne by the Indian masses was certainly great.

INDUSTRIALISATION OF INDIA

The urgent importance of industrialisation of India in any plan of post-war reconstruction was stressed by Sir M. Visvesvaraya delivering his presidential address at the fourth annual conference of the All India Manufacturers' Organisation which met at Nagpur on March 18 "What should be done by Government now, if they mean business," said Sir M. Visvesvaraya, "is to deduce a five-year-plan from the figures given in the fifteen-year-plan and work up a complete five-year-plan with detailed schedules. There is urgent need for starting new industries and need also for making active preparations from now for establishing heavy industries as soon as war is over, but Government show unprepared-

MEMORIAL TO KASTURBA

A fund to be called the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Fund, to be presented to Mahatma Gandhi on his 75th birthday to be spent for the welfare and education of women in India, is proposed in an appeal issued on March 8 by some forty prominent leaders headed by Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya. The appeal runs:

The sad death of Shrimati Kasturba Gandhi has caused nation-wide grief and mourning. The position she has held in Indian life for these thirty years, coupled with her passing away in prison, has stirred the country as nothing else in recent times The greatest in the land have showered their tributes, and, in countless homes, from the Himalayas to Cape Comorin, men, women and children have been shedding tears of affection and reverence. We are convinced that, the people of India will not rest satisfied until they have been able to do something concrete to perpetuate her memory on a scale worthy of her and themselves

. . In view of the uniqueness of the occasion, we appeal to the nation to aim at collecting a purse of not less than Rs 75 lakhs to mark the age of 75, which Mahatma Gandhi will have attained on October 2 next. . . .

The nation will also expect that any memorial in the name of Shri Kasturba should be such as will be identified with one at least of the great humanitarian tasks to which Mahatma Gandhi has dedicated his life We, therefore, propose that a fund be raised from all over India and from the rich and the poor, to be called the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Fund and be presented to Mahatma Gandhi on his next birthday, to be spent for the welfare and education of women in India

WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE

The following Press Note has been issued by the Government:

Under the Madras Ministerial Service Rules no woman is eligible for appointment to the service or for retention therein otherwise than as clerk in the Special Branch of the C. I. D. unless she is a spinster or a widow without children. A similar restriction applies to the appointment of women to the Madras Secretariat Service or to their retention therein. In certain services, *e.g.*, Madras Educational Subordinate Service preference is given to spinsters and widows to married women for appointment in the Women's Branch. The Government have now decided that all restrictions on grounds of marriage against the employment or retention of women in public service

AN APPEAL TO A.I.N.E.C.

The *Statesman* writes:—

"Orissa has come to the conclusion, probably justified, that it gets insufficient publicity in papers of other provinces. Its remedial measure is to constitute a publicity advisory board. The Central Government also dissatisfied, not long ago announced the extension of its news-writing departments. Surely all Governments must be aware by this time that the governing lack is not of publicists but of paper. It is noteworthy that this criticism is never met by Government. It keeps quiet and goes on appointing writers whose efforts cannot be used by the leading newspapers. If the A.I.N.E.C. were not otherwise engaged it could, in determined tones, draw the authorities' attention to the real problem and prevent wasteful additions to publicity departments very few of whose offerings can be printed."

LIFE OF KASTURBA

The United Press learns that a life history of the late Kasturba Gandhi will soon be published together with the tributes received from all over the world. The book will be edited by Mr. R. K. Prabhu, Assistant Editor of the *Bombay Chronicle*. The profits and the Editor's royalties will be donated to the Kasturba Memorial Fund being opened in Bombay.

"NATIONAL HERALD" PRESS

Mr. Krishna Narain Agarwal, Director-in-charge of the "National Herald" of Lucknow, has received a communication from the Deputy Commissioner, Lucknow, informing him that instructions have been issued for the handing back of the Press, machinery and other property, taken over or sealed, to the "National Herald." The communication adds that the police guard is also being withdrawn.

FISCHER'S "EMPIRE" BANNED

A Gazette Notification states that the Central Government have banned bringing into British India any copy of the book entitled "Empire" by Mr. Louis Fischer published in New York or any translation, reprint, or other document containing substantial reproductions of the matter contained in the said book.

PROF. KEITH'S TRIBUTE TO GANDHI

Reviewing the *History of Gujarata and its Literature* by K. M. Munshi, Dr. A. Berriedale Keith pays the following tribute to Gandhiji:

"Gujarata has of late attained world renown as the home of Mahatma Gandhi, the incarnation of the highest ideals of Hindu Dharma, the teacher of living faith in work for humanity which appeals to all that is finest in the spirit of India, and has won for his motherland a measure of respect far greater than could ever be achieved by material means."

SIR RADHAKRISHNAN AWARDED MEDAL

Among the distinguished recipients of gold medals and prizes awarded on the occasion of the recent convocation of the Calcutta University were Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor, Benares University, specially invited to address the convocation, Dr. S. K. Chatterji, of the Calcutta Varsity and Mrs. Hemalata Tagore, of the Saroj Nalini Memorial Association.

They were awarded respectively the Kamala Gold Medal (1937), Sarojini Basu Gold Medal (1943) and Lila Prize (1944).

NEW INDIAN V. C.

Outstanding gallantry and leadership in action in the Chin Hills area of the Burma front between May 24 and 27, 1943, has won for Havildar Gaje Ghale, 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles (F.F.) the second V. C. to be awarded for fighting on that front. Havildar Gaje Ghale, who has now been promoted to the rank of Jamadar, is the seventh Indian Army V. C. in this war and the second Gurkha to have won the coveted honour.

WHY MOSLEY ESCAPED TRIAL

Professor J. B. S. Haldane, speaking at a Somerset meeting, said in his opinion this was the reason why Mosley was not being brought to trial:—

"At the trial so much dirt would come out about distinguished supporters of the present Government that they dare not bring him to trial."

CURE FOR A FORM OF CANCER

"For the first time in the history of mankind it is possible to state that one form of cancer can be completely controlled and the patient rendered symptom-free by the administration of a few pills by mouth each day." This statement was made by *Professor E. C. Dodds, Courtauld Professor* of Biochemistry at London University, at a meeting in London of the British Empire *Cancer Campaign.*

Professor Dodds gave a clear warning that the discovery is so far confined solely to cancer of the prostate.

He said that descriptions of the new treatment in America had been "completely confirmed," and it would appear from the Registrar-General's figures for 1941 that "*this discovery will result in the elimination* of intense suffering and death from cancer of the prostate in approximately 4,000 persons annually in England and Wales alone."

"I trust that this statement will not be distorted, and that hopeless sufferers from other forms of malignant disease will not assume that a cure is within sight."

VITAMIN C AND WOUNDS

When a tissue is injured it bleeds. Eventually the blood clots. Then fibres of a material called "collagen" are formed in the blood clot, probably by the action of various cells. If an injured man, or guinea-pig (both being animals which need vitamin C in their diets), does not take enough vitamin C, then the formation of these "collagen" fibres is delayed. Dr. A. H. Hunt has shown that immature collagen may form in animals deprived of vitamin C and that it fails to mature. This means that there will be only a partial healing of wounds and they will be likely to break open again when subjected to *any strain. It* has also been shown that the formation of the fibrous maltrix of bone is delayed if there is *insufficient vitamin C in the* diet and that in such cases fractured bones take an abnormally long time to *heal, and having healed, they* may still break again easily.

CURE FOR INSOMNIA

There are many causes of insomnia. It may be due to worry, anxiety, grief, mental excitement, eating a hearty supper, the use of tea and coffee, cola drinks, alcoholic beverages, exhaustion or great fatigue from many hours of work, a colon filled with *putrefying residues, or pain from any source,* writes *Good Health.*

While drugs are the most common remedy for insomnia, sleeplessness cannot be cured by their use, and each dose does harm. We are informed by the Good Book that the sleep of the labouring man is sweet.

Insomnia is a plague of the sedentary worker. Persons whose employment affords opportunity for muscular activity rarely suffer from insomnia except when they use tea or coffee or suffer from pain. In many cases of insomnia all that is necessary to secure eight hours of restful sleep at night is to make the evening meal consist entirely of fruit, and then to do enough work to cause at least slight fatigue. In cases of constipation, it may also be necessary to empty the colon by means of an enema.

MILK, GHEE AND OIL

Vanaspati (hydrogenated fat) is widely used as a substitute for ghee, and its manufacturers claim that it is as nutritive as *ghee and is the cheapest substitute for* it. The general opinion, however, seems to be that ordinary edible oil has much *better nutritive value than hydrogenated* oil or vanaspati. Again, the hydrogenation process adds to the cost of the oil, compelling the consumer to pay a higher price for a product which he considers less digestible.

Authoritative information on the merits of vanaspati should soon, however, be available. The Imperial Dairy Research Institute, Bangalore, and the Animal Nutrition Institute at Izatnagar are undertaking research directed towards ascertaining the nutritive values of all such edible fats and comparing them with ghee.

The Bangalore Institute will, in addition, *carry out chemical research on Indian dahi* or curds and on the detection of adulteration of milk with skimmed milk powder. The *expenditure for these import-* ant schemes has already been sanctioned.

NEW INCOME-TAX SCHEDULE

The amounts of tax payable by different incomes above Rs. 10,000 under the new rates of income-tax, super-tax and surcharge proposed in the Finance Bill are illustrated in the following selected cases:

Income.	Proposed tax.	Amount of tax after exemptions for insurance, etc.
11,000	1,143	957
12,000	1,362	1,140
13,000	1,581	1,313
14,000	1,800	1,498
15,000	2,018	1,680
18,000	2,862	2,376
21,000	3,706	3,087
24,000	4,550	3,792
27,000	5,643	4 752
30,000	6,862	5,820
33,000	8,081	6,930
36,000	9,425	8,100
40,000	11,550	10,200
50,000	16,862	14,450
60,000	22,643	21,180
70,000	28,893	27,370
80,000	35,143	33,600
90,000	41,393	39,870
1,00,000	47,643	46,100
1,50,000	81,237	79,650
2,00,000	1,17,175	1,15,600
3,00,000	1,95,300	1,93.500
4,00,000	2,76,550	2,74,800
5,00,000	3,60,925	3.59,000
10,00,000	8,29,675	8,28,000
20,00,000	17,67,175	17,66,000
30,00,000	27,04,675	27,03,000

RESERVE BANK

Almost unnoticed, finance has been revolutionised; the merging of the Presidency Banks in the Imperial Bank and the establishment of a federal Reserve Bank have so mobilised the capital resources of India that even before the war funds for investment were, if anything, in excess of the available fields; under war conditions India has discharged most of her overseas debt and accumulated large sterling balances.

DEFENCE LOANS

During the seven weeks ending February 26, 1944, Rs. 44¾ crores were invested in Central Government loans, of which Rs. 24¾ crores represent subscriptions to the fourth Defence Loan and Rs. 20 crores other loans on sale through the Reserve Bank, says a press note.

AMERICANS IN INDIAN RAILWAYS

Mr. Ananda Mohan asked in the Central Assembly whether it was a fact that several American officers had been employed on various railways and if so; what was their number?

Sir Edward Benthall: No, but on occasions American officers have been associated in work which affects the movements of their own war equipment and stores.

Q: Is it a fact that certain sections of the Bengal and Assam Railway have been placed at the disposal of the American military authorities; if so, do Government propose to lay before the House particulars of the arrangements or contracts entered into between the U.S. and the Central Government?

A: No, but traffic operation on certain sections of the Bengal and Assam Railway will be handed over for control and direction by the Americans who will employ a number of their own army railway personnel. The General Manager of the Railway will, however, continue to exercise general control.

Q: Do the Lease-Lend agreement envisage control over railway lines by the American military?

A: No, this has nothing to do with Lease-Lend.

Pandit Maitra: I wanted to know about the constitutional relationship between them. Sir Edward's reply was inaudible.

Several members angrily asked why this arrangement with the American authorities was made without reference to the House. One member asked if there was any proposal to transfer India in whole or in part to Americans.

RAILWAY FINANCE

The total approximate gross earnings upto January 10, 1944, were Rs. 185·17 crores, *i.e.*, Rs. 18·55 crores more than for the corresponding period of last year while approximate ordinary working expenses, excluding appropriation to and from depreciation fund, upto the end of November 1948, were Rs. 57·29 crores, *i.e.*, Rs. 18·89 crores more than for the corresponding period last year.

ADOLF HITLER MUSEUM OF ART

George Wildenstein, member of the U.S. Commission for protecting and salvaging artistic and historic European monuments, a Government agency, described in a nation-wide broadcast the Nazi art looting and suggested a method of returning the treasures to their rightful owners. Excerpts from his broadcast follow.

"Two days after the Nazis occupied Paris their vans rolled up before the mansions of the Rothschilds and stripped them bare. Their loot included two of Rubens' greatest portraits, three Rembrandts, other paintings by Roucher (one of which Goering now has), one Holbein and a Fragonard. In all, the estimated value of the looted Rothschild collections alone is more than 40 million dollars.

"One aspect of Hitler's megalomania is his interest in the Adolf Hitler Museum in his native town of Linz. Cherishing the delusion that he himself could have been an artist instead of a house painter *if destiny had not called him to lead the* Germans, his plan is to stuff his memorial with great masterpieces until it would equal the Louvre by the simple expedient of taking the Louvre collection too, if necessary."

CLASSICAL MUSIC

The memorable contribution of Sri Swati Tirunal Maharaja to Carnatic Music, which along with the work of Tyagaraja, Dikshitar, Sama Sastri and Kshetragna represented the climax of southern musical art was recalled at some length by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar declaring open the Swati Tirunal Music Festival celebrated under the auspices of the Swati Tirunal Sangitha Sabha at Trivandrum.

Asthana Vidwan Semmangudi Srinivasa Aiyar presided.

The Dewan briefly referred to the life and work of Swati Tirunal, the royal composer, who composed songs in several tongues and dialects of India. Reviewing the development of Carnatic Music at the hands of Kshetragna, Tyagabrahmam, Dikshitar, *Sama Sastri and Swati Tirunal, he answered* in unambiguous affirmative the question, "Is classical music worth preserving"? However one might designate it, he said, "You must take it or leave it, taking it at its best and leaving it at its worst."

INDIA : A TENNIS MECCA

High compliments to India's leading tennis players were paid by Hal Surface, the well-known American tennis player, writing of 'Indian Tennis' in the annual number of *Sports and Screen*, Calcutta.

Surface who is holder of the East India Lawn Tennis Championship for the past two years and has met India's best players, *considers Ghaus Mahomed to be* 'the finest player in the country'. 'His back-hand is definitely one of the outstanding shots of the tennis world, ranking with Budge Kovacs and McNeill,' he adds. Hal Surface ranks the next nine players in the following order: (2) Iftikar Ahmad, (3) S. L. R. Sawhney, (4) Dilip Bose, (5) Sumant Misra, (6) Ishrad Hussain, (7) Man Mohan, (8) Prem Pandi, (9) Madan Mohan and (10) Vasant.

Surface says that India's tennis has made a very favourable impression on him. It was for him a great pleasure to arrive in India and find in it a 'tennis Mecca'. Some of the finest grass courts in the world are here in India.

Surface is of opinion that although the standard of tennis in India is not as *high as in the U.S.A.*, '*it is apparent* that it is coming on rapidly'. The climate of India is much more favourable for tennis than that of the U.S.A., as one is able to play the year round here.

WEIGHT LIFTING CONTEST

India beat Ceylon by 11 points to 5 in the second Indo-Ceylon weight lifting contest held at Calcutta last month. The results were:

Bantam Weight: Baid Anath Ghosh (India), first, 148, 151, 193—492 lbs.; R. Marshal Fernando (Ceylon), second, 143, 186, 193—472 lbs.; Feather Weight: *Sankar Khan, (India), first, 146, 146,* 194—486 lbs.; T. S. J. Packeer Ally (Ceylon), second, 130, 130, 181—441 lbs., Light Weight: Shafiq Ahmed (India), first, 165, 178, 218—561 lbs; Amilya Chakrabarti (India), second, 151, 175, 218,—544 lbs.

SCIENCE

BASIC CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Moved by Dr. H. Gosh (Calcutta) and seconded by Dr. Hamid (Bombay), the Federation of Indian Chambers, which met at Delhi last month, passed a resolution deploring the indifferent attitude and failure of the Government of India in making a co-ordinated plan for starting and developing the basic chemical industry in the country both for defence purposes and for the healthy progress of the chemical, pharmaceutical and allied industries. The resolution urged the Government to constitute an advisory panel of manufacturers to find out ways and means of removing the grievances of the industry and initiate measures for a healthy and well-planned development of this essential industry.

GOLD FROM PYRITES

Researches carried out at the Chemical Department of the Indian Science Institute on extraction of sulphur from pyrites ore have revealed the existence of gold in pyrites. It has been found that one ton of pyrites yielded 1·5 oz. of gold.

A method is claimed to have been evolved at the Institute for the extraction both of gold and sulphur from pyrites ore. The whole work is yet in a preliminary stage, and it will be some time before perfection is achieved.

NO WAR-MADE RAIN

The widespread belief that shells from cannon or heavy bombings on the battle-fronts cause heavy rainstorms is without basis, according to an American authority. Terrific as the forces let loose in a heavy barrage or bombing raid may seem, they are ineffective compared with the forces which control the weather. Mankind will be able to control the weather only when it can stop a mass of air of 190,000,000,000 tons from going its own way.

DISTANT STAR

The star nearest the earth, little Proxima Centauri, is 24,600,000,000 miles away. It would take a rocket travelling at a rate of more than 400 miles an hour 7,000,000 years to make the trip.

GOVERNMENT'S FILM "SHORTS"

Mr. H. C. Hassum. Public Relations Officer, Information Films of India, addressing a gathering of journalists, Film Editors and exhibitors, at Madras, pleaded for their co-operation to get the best use for the short films now produced by the Department of Information, Government of India.

Mr. Hassum stressed the educational value of these shorts, which, he said, covered, not only news and topical events, but a very extensive field of cultural, historical, economic, industrial and social subjects of great interest to the average Indian. He pointed out that these constituted the easiest and best India's messengers overseas and would command a better market abroad than feature pictures with pure Indian appeal produced with an eye to box office.

Production of "shorts" by this Department, Mr. Hassum said, was being stepped up rapidly. From 30 last year, it had increased to 68 this year. Every week one news reel and one "short" subject was produced; and it was up to the exhibitors and the public to take full advantage of them.

NARGIS—MEHBOOB'S "FIND"

The chief contribution of *Taqdeer* (Mehboob's new picture, which is attracting crowded houses), to the film industry, is that it introduces a new star in the film world—Nargis. Daughter of the famous songstress, Jaddanbai Nargis has a radiant, charming personality. Photographed as only Cameraman Faredoon Irani could photograph her and moulded by Mehboob, to whom we owe many star-discoveries like *Surendra*, Maya Bannerji and Shaikh Mukhtar, Nargis emerges in *Taqdeer* as a promising star, says *Forum*.

HOLLYWOOD AWARDS FOR 1943

The Academy of Motion Pictures, Arts and Sciences awards for 1943 are announced as under:—

Distinctive documentary achievement—"Desert Victory." The best film—"Casablanca." The best directing—by Michael Curtiz in "Casablanca." The best actor—Paul Lukas in "The Watch on the Rhine." The best actress—Jennifer Jones in "The Song of Bernadette."

FIVE WAYS OF SAVING FUEL

Petrol is brought to this country in tankers. The same tankers are also needed to bring fuel for the Navy, the Army and Air Force. The needs of the Fighting Services are rising and you can help to *make sure that they are fully met* by stopping all waste. Save shipping by making *every drop go as far as possible.*

You can do so by following these simple rules:—

1. Avoid spillage when *filling up*—use a funnel, if necessary.
2. Don't drive fast. Speeding wastes fuel.
3. Watch your stopping and starting—*this is where most waste occurs.* Roll up to a stop whenever you can. Do *not compete with other drivers* in getting away quickly after a stop—*it is wasteful to open the throttle* more than you need.
4. Switch off your engine whenever you can. Millions of gallons are wasted by drivers who keep the engine running when the vehicle is stationary.
5. If your fuel consumption seems too high, report it at once. Watch for and *report* anything likely to affect your fuel consumption, *e.g.*, black *exhaust smoke.*

AN ELECTRIC MOTOR

The General Electric Company announces that its engineers have perfected an electric motor which operates at the record breaking speed of *120,000* revolutions per minute—65 times faster than the conventional electric motor. If the wheels on an automobile could be mounted on this machine, the car would move at a rate of 10,000 miles per hour. This is about 14 times faster than the speed of sound. Motors of this type will be used for grinding and drilling essential plane parts and won't be available for general use until after the war. The whole machine weighs no more than seven pounds and can be held in the hand. At present it produces three horse powers and is cooled by a half gallon of water per minute.

A NEW GIANT PLANE

A new all-purpose giant plane, which outshines the 70 ton Mars flying-boat, is going into service with the U.S. Navy. Known as Jim I it is designed to carry weights up to about 65 tons and can be converted instantly into a hospital, passenger or troop-carrying plane. Disclosing details of the new air giant, the Navy Department says that it is a production version of the Mars, but is even larger and more efficient than its prototype which is already serving in the Pacific. As a cargo plane it can carry seven jeeps or even greater numbers of fieldguns or aircraft engines. As a hospital plane, it can accommodate 80 stretcher cases and 25 reclining chairs and as a troop carrier, 132 men. Differences from the Mars include one rudder instead of two, absence of shower baths and a loading opening large enough to let a jeep drive in.

EMPIRE AND AIR TRANSPORT

The British Home Secretary, Mr. Herbert Morrison, in an article entitled "British Labour Looks Ahead" in the current issue of the *Liberty* magazine says that modern air transport will help the British Empire to become more tightly knit than ever before.

Mr. Morrison is of opinion that the British people "do not want to have on their conscience the irresponsible handling of partially developed peoples who have been entrusted to their care. Recently there has sprung up in Britain a strong new interest in bettering the conditions of our colonial people."

AUTOMATIC PILOT FOR PLANES

A recent invention now used by the U.S. air forces enables a pilot to set his plane on a straight course, then switch on a little mechanism that keeps the air ship on that course, compensating for any rolls, banks and turns that might be caused by oncoming winds or other air disturbances. The mechanism is called an "automatic pilot" and is controlled by a gyroscope.

The gyroscope, which consists of a fast spinning electrically driven wheel, mounted on a free floating axis, and which, due to its fast gyration, always maintains a horizontal position, also, helps the pilot avoid such mistakes as flying in circles or in strangely tilted positions.

THE EPIC OF TATA'S

John L. Keenan, who resigned General Managership of the Tata Steel Works seven years ago, describes in his book of reminiscences his association with the fabulous growth of the Indian-owned and Indian-operated great Tata Steel and Iron Company.

The author recalls how in 1903 British capitalists, refusing to invest money in the young firm, pledged to eat every pound of the steel rail produced by Tata and when 34 years later they visited Jamshedpur, they found "my appetite in old days must have been enormous."

Writing about late C. F. Andrews, the first President of the Steel Workers' Union, Mr. Keenan says:

He was one of the finest men I have ever known and an indefatigable friend of Labour. He did his best to get good men for local leaders and never hesitated to tell his Committee that they were growing up too slowly or, if men had real grievances, to persist until the management had swung around to his viewpoint He saw that Tata's was more than an industry—that it was a national asset. He imbued men with the same spirit and turned them back into the crowd working for their own and for their country's good as much as for wages.

INDUSTRIAL STOPPAGES IN BRITISH INDIA

There were 694 stoppages during the year 1942 involving 7,72,653 workers as compared with 359 stoppages involving 2,91,054 workers during 1941. The total number of man-days lost was 57,79,965 as compared with 33,30,503 in the previous year. The figures for 1942 also contain statistics for stoppages due to political causes.

During the year there were 35 stoppages involving 5,000 or more workers and 3 involving more than 10,000 workers. There were 10 stoppages each resulting in a loss of man-days exceeding 100,000, of which 6 involved more than 10,000 workers each.

In 433 or 63 per cent: of the disputes the demands related mainly to wages or bonus. The number of stoppages in which the workers were wholly or partially successful was 286 or approximately 42 per cent. of the total number of stoppages which ended during the year.

IN AID OF AGRICULTURE

In the Central Assembly recently Mr. Govind Deshmukh moved a resolution recommending that, "as an anti-inflationary measure, a loan of Rs. 10 crores earmarked for purposes of subsidising agriculturists to grow more food and increase milk products be now floated."

Mr. Deshmukh referred to the food shortage in the country, and said as in other countries, subsidies should be given to agriculturists. The scheme of economic development suggested by Sir Purushothamdas Thakurdas and others was a long-range one and would not meet the immediate needs of the country. More food could not be grown merely by bringing more land under cultivation and with the meagre help which Government in this country had given to the agriculturists. Measures should be adopted to meet the shortage of labour in the farms and prevent it from drifting into more profitable employment such as military works.

The cattle wealth of the country, which was so essential for agriculture, was being depleted and effective steps should be taken to stop the slaughter of bullocks as well as prime cattle.

U.S. AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY FOR INDIA

Agricultural machinery from America valued at 1,107,000 dollars had been received in India under lend-lease up to the end of October, 1943, the Supply Member, Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, indicated in reply to a question in the Central Assembly recently.

Agricultural machinery worth 1,042,000 dollars had been distributed to military centres like Government dairy farms. The balance worth 65,000 dollars would be distributed to essential users through stockist agents.

RICE CULTIVATION

The total area under rice in India in 1943-44 is placed at 76,075,000 acres by the All-India Second Rice Forecast for the period. This compares with the revised acreage of 75,519,000 in 1942-43 and shows an increase of 6 per cent. The condition of the crop is reported to be good on the whole.

STANDARDISATION OF WAGES

Questions relating to the standardisation of the occupational terms and wages of skilled and semi-skilled workers in India will be examined by four Committees consisting of the Chairman, National Service Labour Tribunal, officers of the Technical Training Scheme and representatives of employers and employees, which are being set up immediately in Bombay, Bengal, Bihar and the U.P.

The Committees will be provided with a provisional list of occupational terms in respect of the engineering trades. To cover the question of wages of skilled and semi skilled personnel, the Committees will examine and report on statistics of wages and methods of wage fixation, the extent to which standard basic rates can be fixed, and the possibility of introducing a measure of standardisation in respect of overtime, night work bonuses, such as annual bonus, production bonus and other forms of remuneration supplementing the basic rate.

BENGAL LABOUR SURVEY COMMITTEE

In pursuance of the Central Government's scheme for co-ordinating the use of unskilled labour throughout the country, the Government of Bengal have set up a committee with Mr. K Shahabuddin, Minister for Labour, Commerce and Industries, as Chairman.

The committee consists of 17 members representing the Government, military authorities and various trade and commercial interests. Mr. A. Talib, lately Deputy Labour Commissioner, Bengal, is the Secretary.

LABOUR WELFARE IN MADRAS

The Taxation and Finance Committee of the City Council, Madras, while considering the budget estimates for 1944 45, sanctioned non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 5,000 for labour welfare work among Corporation workers, and also recommended to the City Council to appoint an *ad hoc* Committee to make recommendations in the matter.

The Committee also recommended that the Government be asked to give the Corporation a free grant of Rs. 6 lakhs to grant its employees in all grades, a dearness allowance on the scale sanctioned by the Government for their employees.

INCREASES IN ARMY PAY

General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief, intervening in the general discussion on the budget, announced that the Government have decided to further increase the pay of a number of classes of Indian soldiers.

The Commander-in Chief said:

"Hon'ble members will recollect that the last considerable improvement in the pay of the Indian soldier was made in September, 1942. That was the third increase since the outbreak of the present war and was estimated to cost about Rs. 5 3 crores a year. The important changes then introduced included:

(1) An increase by Rs. 2 of the basic pay of all Indian other ranks and of enrolled non-combatants;

(2) The grant of proficiency pay at Re. 1 a month after six months' service and at Rs. 3-8 a month after 12 months' service (previously proficiency pay was Re. 1 a month only and was payable after one year's service);

(3) An increase in messing allowance from Rs. 2 to 3 a month.

Government have now decided to increase still further the emoluments of the non-tradesmen classes of other Indian ranks which comprise approximately 80 per cent. of the total strength. Under this decision, combatant ranks in the non-tradesmen class of all arms will, with effect from 1st January, 1944, receive a special proficiency pay over and above the proficiency pay settled in September, 1942.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF WORLD AFFAIRS

The Indian Council of World Affairs was constituted in Delhi, on March 5, at a meeting held under the presidency of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru was elected President and Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, Sir Maurice Gwyer, Rt. Hon. M. R. Jayakar, Sir A. R. Dalal, Mr. G. D. Birla, Pandit H. N. Kunzru and Sir Ziauddin Ahmed were elected Vice-Presidents. Mr. N. R. Sarker was elected Treasurer.

An Executive Committee consisting of 54 members was formed with power to co opt more members.

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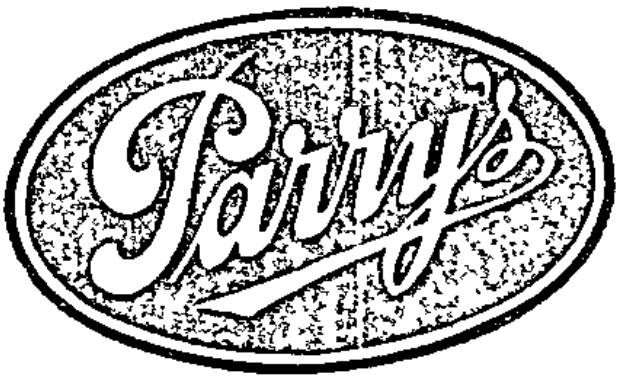
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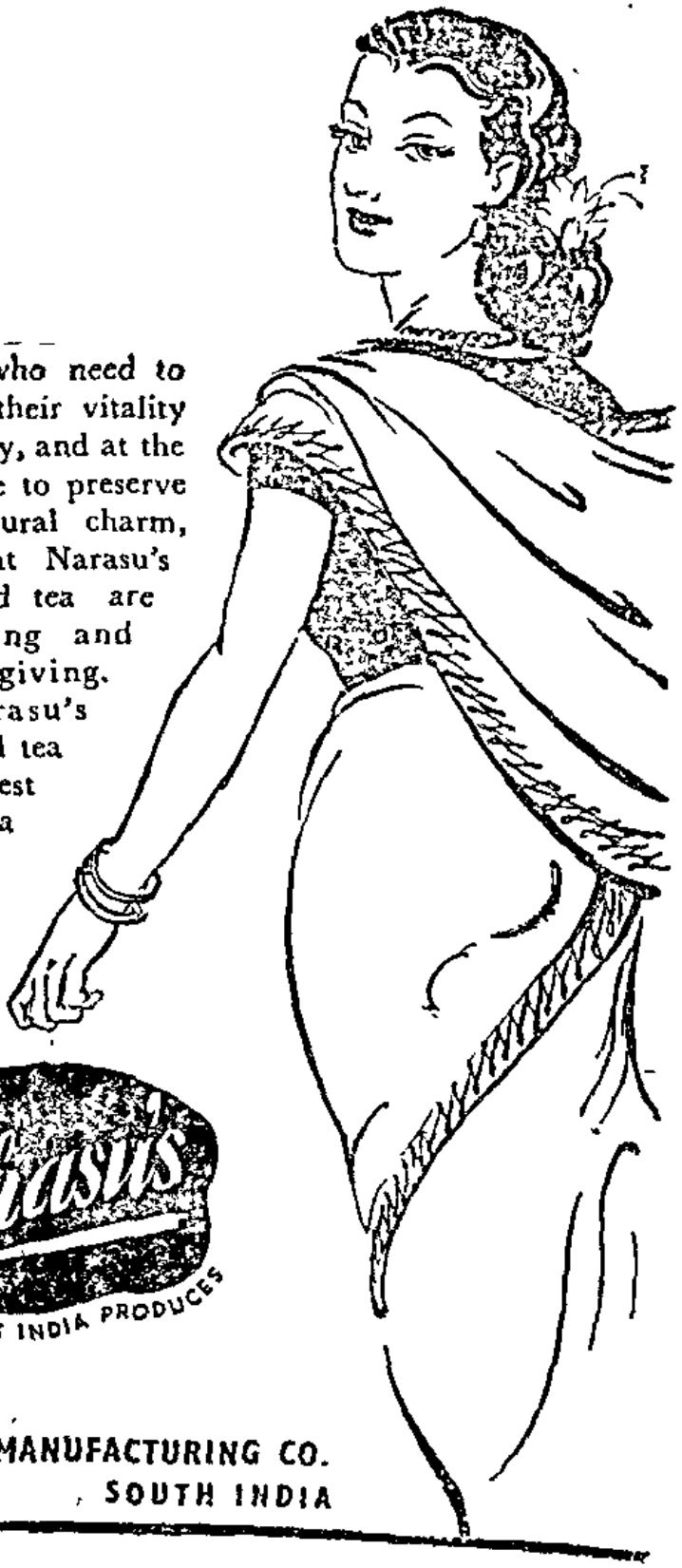
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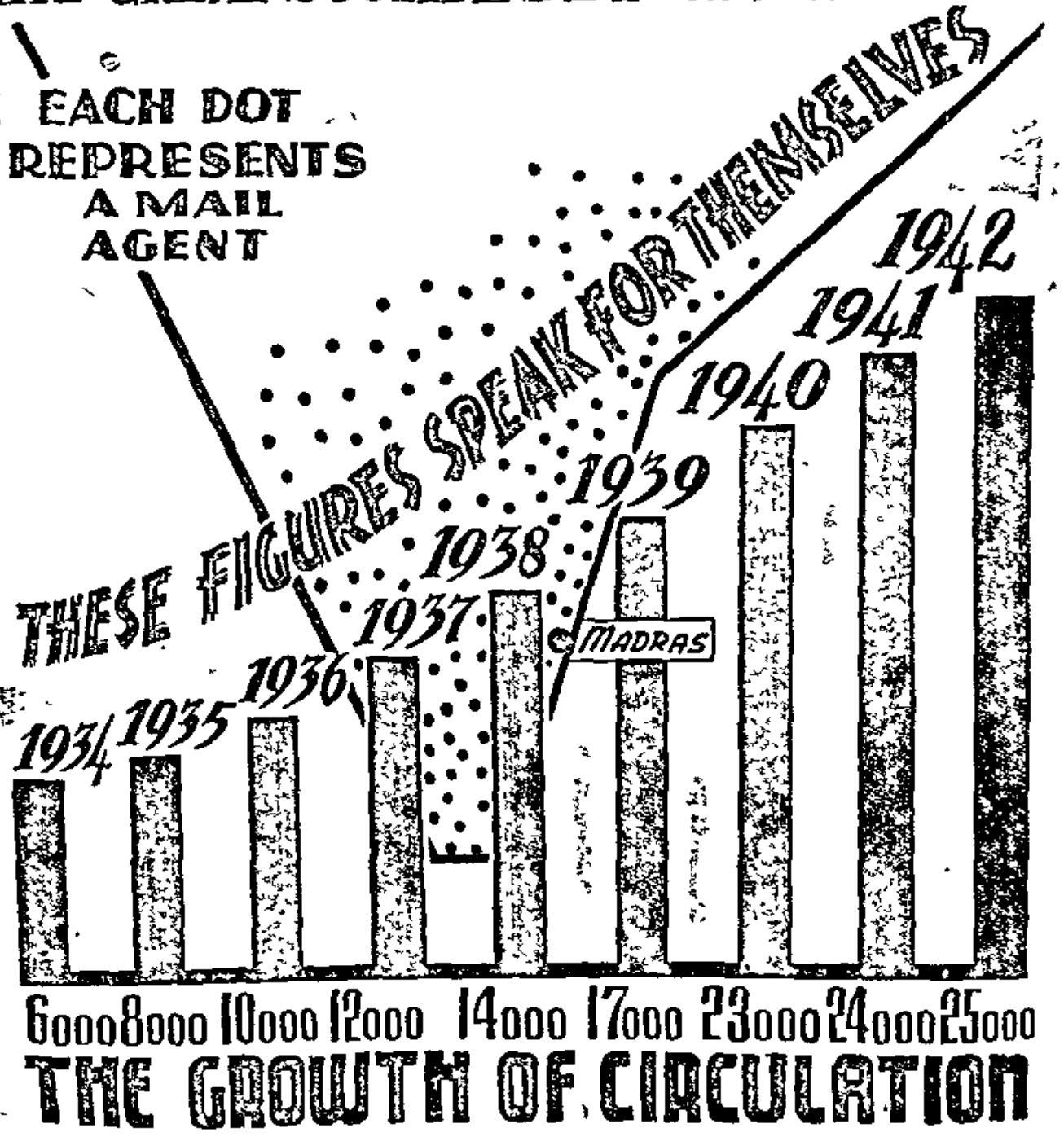
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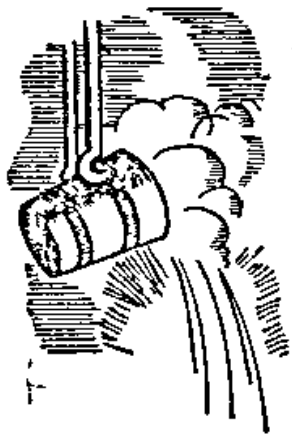
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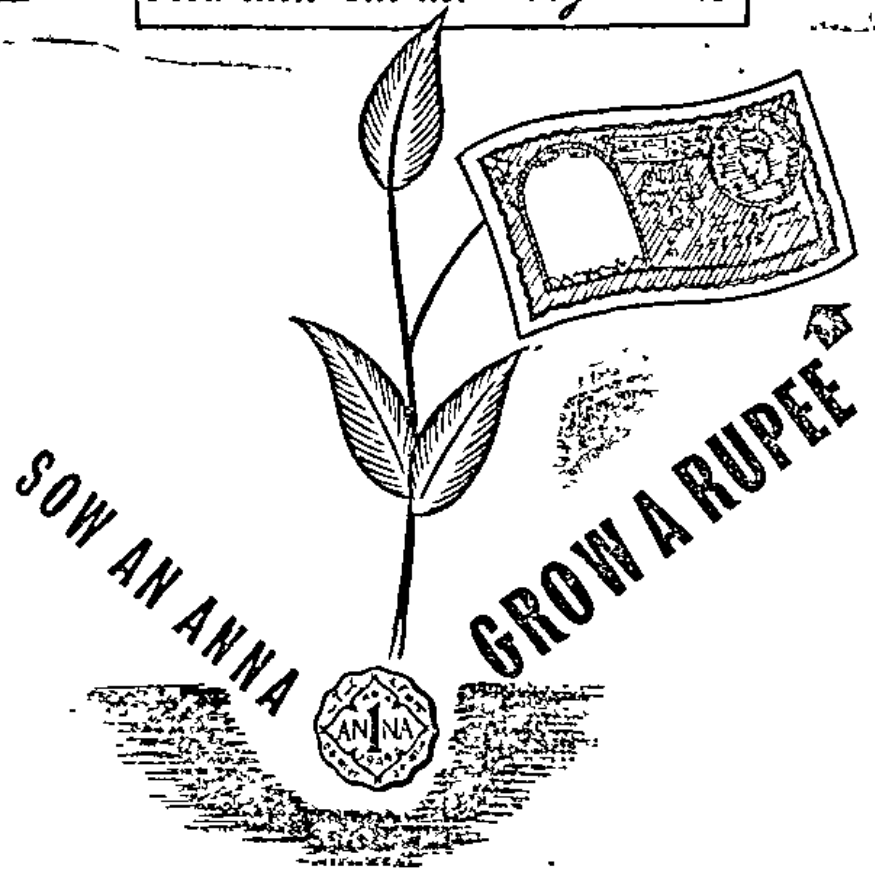
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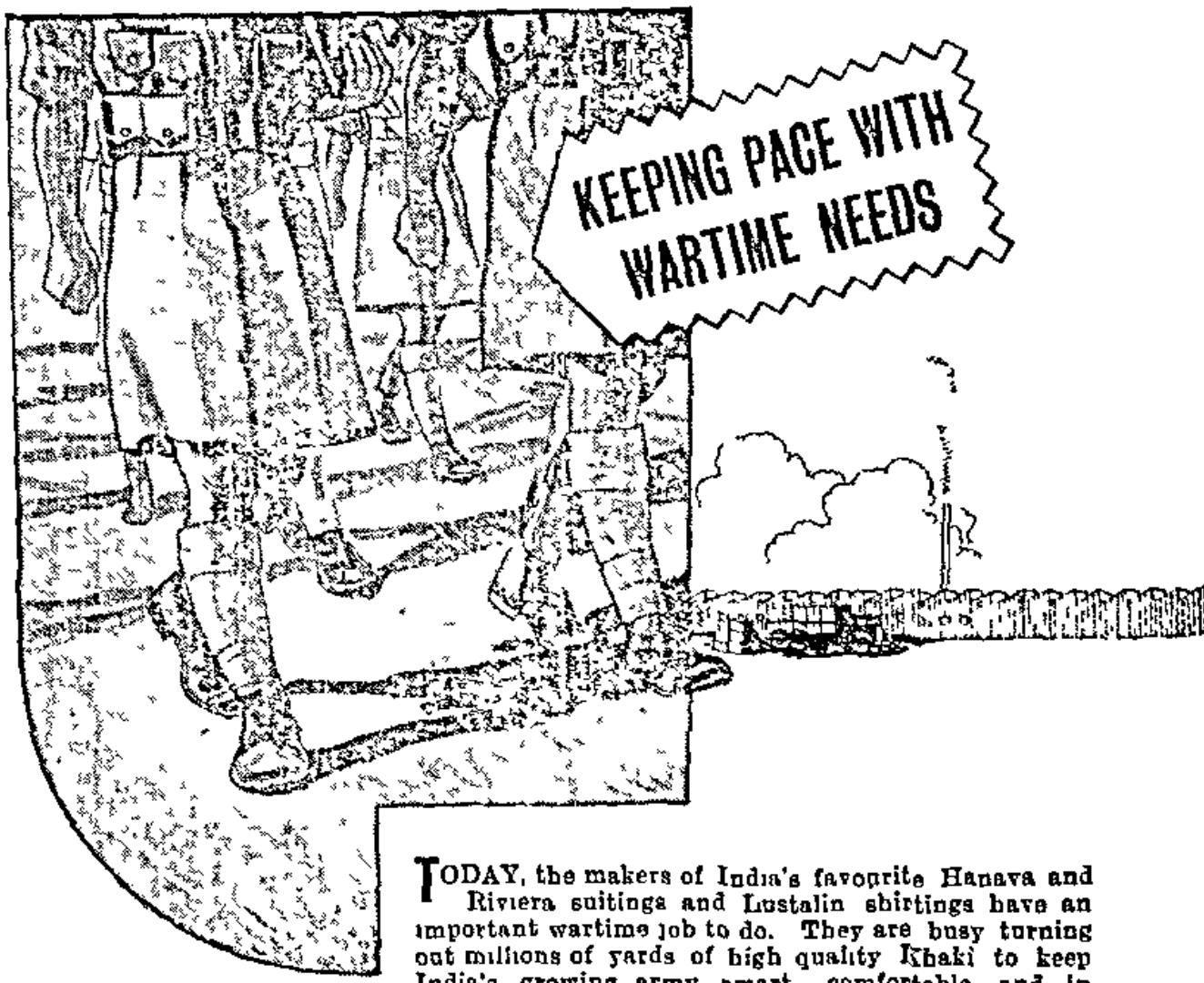
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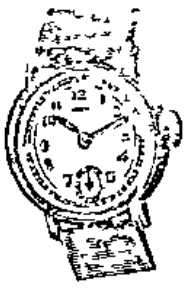
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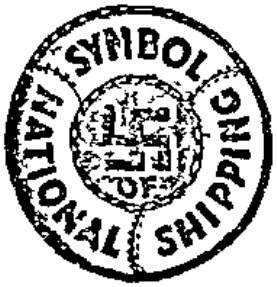
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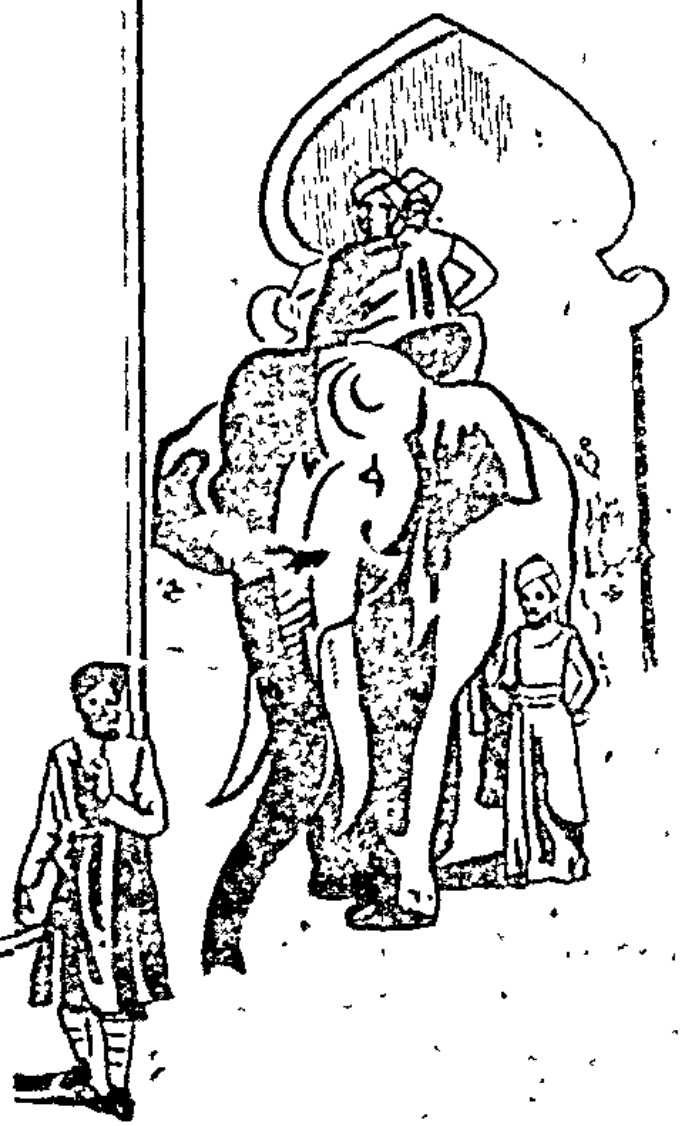
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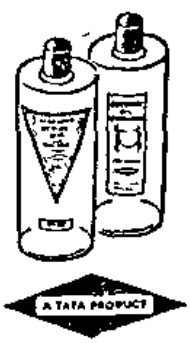
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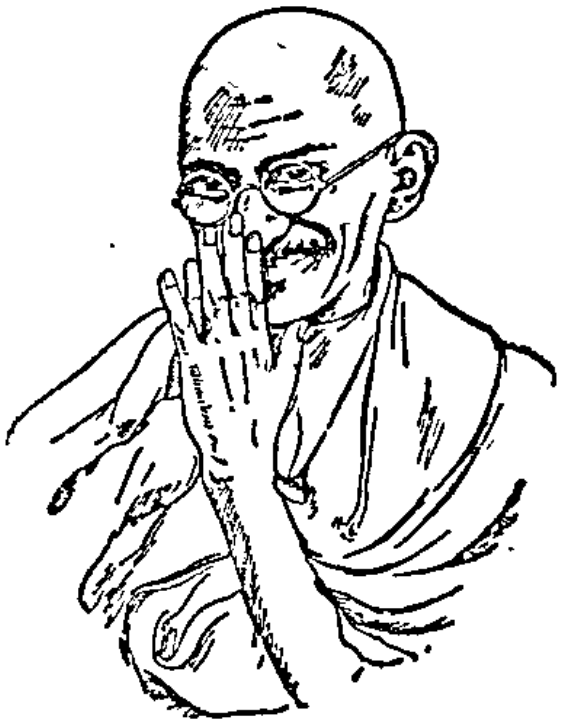
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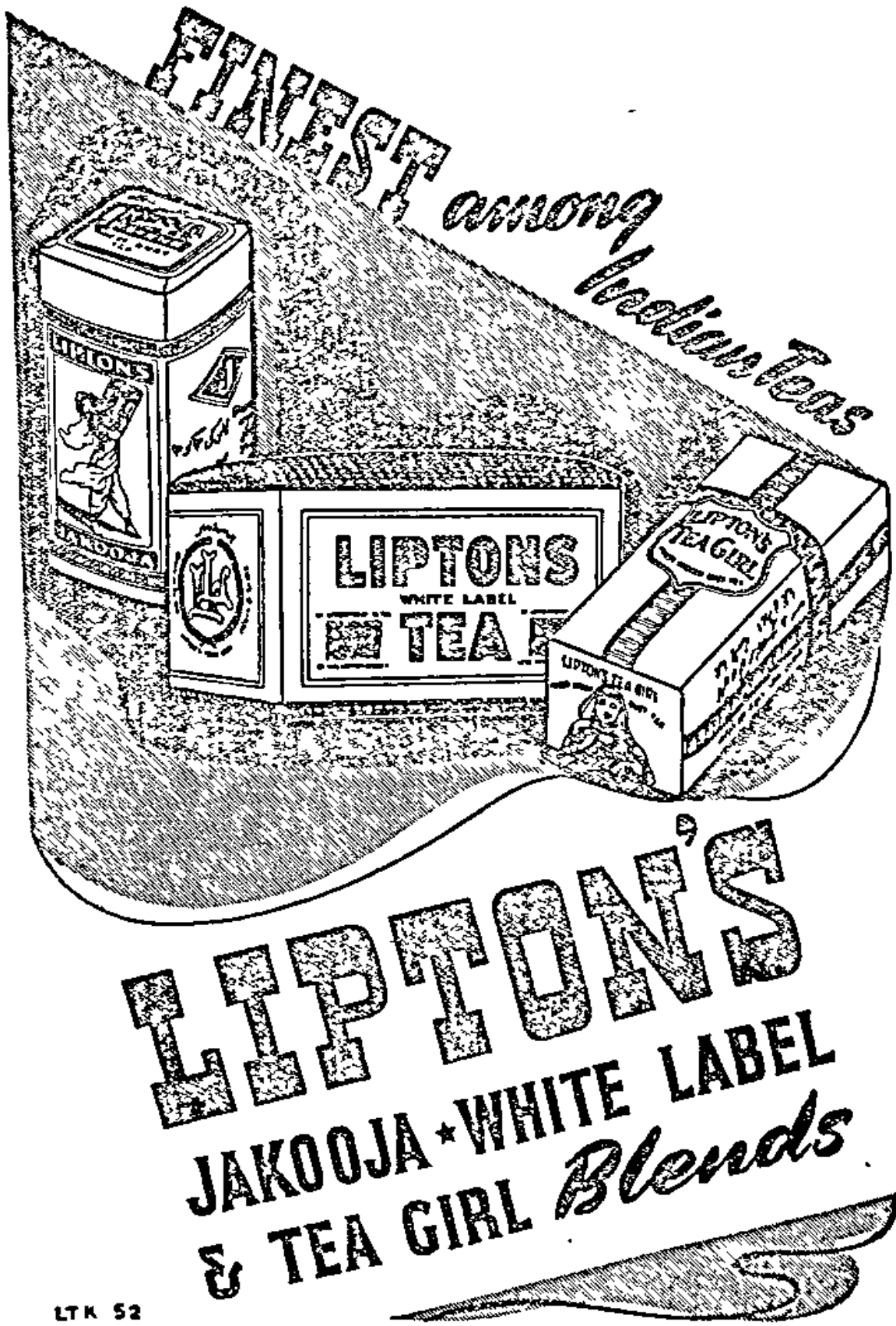


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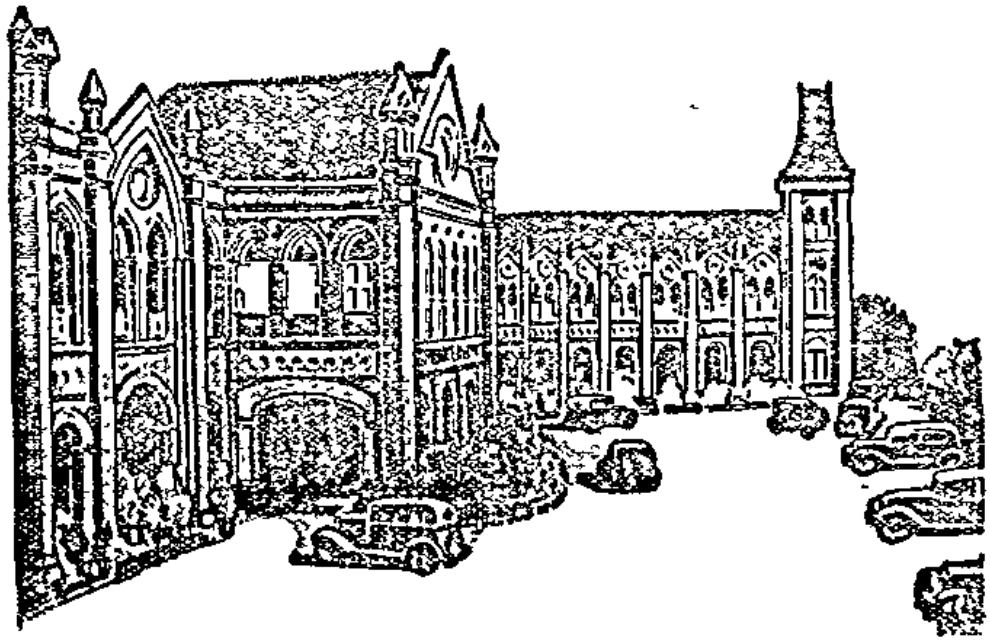
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WAR FINANCE IN INDIA

By Dr. Sir C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.

DURING the whole period of the war, and more than ever in recent months when the great efforts made by the Allies and especially by Russia seem to usher in hopes of speedy peace and reconstruction, a large number of speeches, pamphlets and books have been produced dealing with Post-war Planning. Also, as is well known, the Government of India have appointed committees to deal with the details of such reconstruction and also brought into existence co-ordinating bodies designed to reconcile competing claims and to evolve a harmonious plan of action. Naturally each thinker or writer is influenced in his programmes and recommendations by his own individual training and outlook.

On the 12th April, 1943, a number of eminent economists, headed by Professor V. J. Kale, issued a manifesto dealing with the rapid rise in the general price level and with currency problems. They noted that the unprecedented expansion of currency was due to the system adopted under which the Government of India accepted payment in sterling and provided rupees in exchange. In regard to these purchases, India acquires sterling assets in London and against these, currency is expanded in India. They took the view that the Government here should not think that their duty is fulfilled by taking care of their own budget deficit while meeting the needs of the British Government by issuing more notes. On the basis that the inflationary gap in India's finances counting in what is made on behalf of His Majesty's Government is now filled by the creation of more currency, they attack this type of inflation and have pointed out that the Government cannot calculate too much on the public's present liquidity preference. Opinion has been general in this country that the present inflation in practice involves a transfer of wealth from the poorer and the middle classes to the richer classes. Opinion is also widespread that the gap referred to above should be closed by taxation and borrowing adjusted to the shoulders that can best bear them. The present incidence of taxation in India is obviously lopsided and there is no doubt that agricultural income-tax, exempting or dealing lightly with smaller incomes and steeply increasing as the net incomes increase, must be resorted to sooner or later. It may be remembered that partly by way of dealing with local economic problems and partly also with the above considerations in mind, the Travancore Government have already introduced a system of agricultural income-tax whose workings will be watched with interest. Opinion is also crystallising in the direction of fixing a maximum limit to inc

consumption income and of absorbing all profits above a limit either by means of taxation or by loan contributions.

The economists' manifesto also very wisely deals with the problem of regulating purchasing power by means of centralised supervision and direction of production, of rationing the necessities of life and of adopting a blanket control of prices.

Professor Vakil, the well-known University Professor of Economics in Bombay, in his brochure on the *Financial Burden of the War on India* has made a very useful contribution to these topics and although he has perhaps over-stressed some of his points, many considerations which he has strongly emphasised cannot be ignored. He has rightly stated that in actual financial practice, no clear distinction is made, as it should be, whether a particular military decision or measure is for the defence of India proper or for that of the Empire. To say so, however, does not mean that we can lose sight of the geographical position of India and the argument that a great deal of Empire Defence also helps materially in the defence of India; but this argument can be utilised both ways. The criticism of the author that it is wrong to send large numbers of Indian forces overseas at the same time bringing into India a large number of non-Indian troops, does not perhaps take into account the wide strategic and political significance of the employment of Indian troops abroad: but there is no doubt that the cost of the non-Indian troops for which India pays is much greater than that of the Indian troops sent abroad and who are paid by His Majesty's Government. This matter has to be looked into carefully and the differences adjusted.

The author takes the line that the reciprocity agreement with the United States in relation to the Lease Lend supplies received from the U.S.A. are not genuine Indian needs. His argument is that American troops have been sent to India not so much for the exclusive defence of India as because India is the main base for action against the Japanese. The upholding of American prestige which has suffered a set back in the recent past and the re-conquest of Burma, Malaya and the Pacific Islands demand an effective base in India. He concludes therefrom that America is not justified in accepting a Lease-Lend return from India. The author also makes a strong point of the circumstance that the debt of the East India Company incurred for the conquest of India was turned into the public debt of India and that the interest on the East India Stock and payment of part of the principal were debited to India.

Professor Vakil writing in July, 1943, computes the total additional taxation since the commencement of the war to be in the neighbourhood of 250 crores making allowances for the arrears of excess profits tax, the additional rupee debt incurred during the period being about 545 crores. These calculations do not include the rupee finance provided by the Government of India which are not in the budget and the author has estimated the sterling payments made by His Majesty's Government at about 850 crores, being amount of sterling received by the Government of India from His Majesty's Government in return for rupee expenditure incurred in India on their behalf. It is the case of Professor Vakil that this is the main cause of inflation in India. Against this must be offset the advantage to India of the repatriation of sterling debt

by reason of which we are no longer obliged to send sterling remittances to the United Kingdom in the payment of interest. Even though there may be disagreement on certain of the steps in the above argument, there can be little controversy on one matter, namely, that to prevent the fall in the value of the rupee by reason of inflation His Majesty's Government would be well advised to raise rupee loans in India. In any case, the Government of India should limit the provision of rupee finance to the United Kingdom within the amounts that they can obtain by means of taxes and loans.

There is a large and growing volume of opinion that a programme of increase in production will be fruitful only if the currency situation is adequately dealt with as it is very doubtful if our production can be increased to a sufficiently large extent to justify the growing volume of currency.

We are indebted to Professor Vakil for drawing pointed attention to the difference between anti-inflation and deflation. The former, he describes, as preventing the growth of inflation, the latter being the opposite process of withdrawal of currency from circulation. A reduction in price level brought about by preventing speculation is, according to Professor Vakil, not deflationary and is not likely by itself to be completely effective.

Since the pamphlet under review appeared, further developments have taken place. There is a lively controversy now proceeding with regard to the character of India's sterling balances in London. We have heard of proposals to fund the sterling debts for purposes of fostering British export trade to India. One of the latest proposals is the reported decision to fund the family pension and provident fund to the extent of 150 million pounds and to create a Post-war Reconstruction Fund. True it is that after the war India may have to buy capital goods and other equipment on a large scale, but it is perfectly clear that India should not be prevented from buying at the cheapest rates from the best markets in the world and it is open to grave question whether such a procedure will be possible if our sterling credits are subject to a wholesale funding arrangement. It is quite legitimate to argue that dollar securities have also to be conserved for the benefit of India in view to the future industrial and economic programmes of India. At the time when Professor Vakil was writing, there was not even a wholehearted recognition on all sides of the menace of inflation and even those who castigated public men in India for issuing a warning about the growth of inflation, now advertise methods and programmes for eliminating inflation.

Professor Vakil in his earlier treatise on the "Falling Rupee" was one of the first to demand strong measures for maintaining price levels and for ensuring a minimum quantum of consumer and other essential goods for the people. His warnings are now seen to be justified and Professor Vakil can be congratulated for again wielding a vigorous pen to elucidate certain difficult and technical problems which, however seemingly recondite and remote, are bound up with the economic future of India.

Side by side with this treatise, attention has to be focussed on other contributions to cognate topics, including a brochure by that indefatigable and constructive thinker, Sir M. Visvesvaraya. In his "Prosperity

through Industry" prepared in consultation with the All-India Manufacturers' Association, he has issued an appeal to promote the gainful activities of the average citizens. His programme is on the basis of the active encouragement of heavy industries and he emphasises that scientific progress and industrial organisations are the foundations on which the structure of our social life must rest.

The recent plan for the economic development of India produced by the Bombay Industrialists is all round and comprehensive and deals with the requirements of a minimum standard and sets out the stages of India's necessary development. Special attention is paid to basic industries and it is emphasised that on these industries, such as the manufacture of chemicals and machinery, rest the whole economic life of the country. But they are careful enough not to lay over emphasis on heavy industries at the cost of the production of consumers' goods. They have for their estimate an aggregate expenditure of 10,000 crores of rupees for a five-year plan dealing with agriculture, industries, communications, education, health, housing, etc.

Sir Tracy Gavin-Jones of Cawnpore, on the other hand, has in his booklet entitled "The Musings of an Industrialist on the Economic Future of India" stresses that Government should concentrate their attention and resources on agricultural development. He does not lay as much emphasis on immediate industrial progress as on agricultural rehabilitation and social organisation.

Mr. Gadgil and Mr. Sovani of the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, proceeding on the same lines as Professor Vakil, lay the utmost emphasis on a Central Constructive Economic Committee for evolving a co-ordinated financial and economic plan. Propaganda and volunteer effort will never, by themselves, suffice effectively to deal with production, price and distribution. So far, it must be confessed that financial and economic policy has not been fully or even largely co-ordinated. It may be noted that there is general agreement as to the drastic steps that may be necessary to check inflation. The extent of liquid fund in the market and the trends in prices, the speculation in commodities, are all symptoms of a serious malady and are threatening the extinction of the middle classes and tending towards the accumulation of profits in the hands of a very small minority. The net result of all the thinking that has been bestowed on the subject of the economic and financial policy of the country is that in the future and for as long as we can foresee, economic planning and the continued and close regulation, economic and financial programmes by the State have come to stay.

This tendency is evident all over the world and is equally evident whether we concentrate attention on Mr. Morgenthau's circular or on the English proposal as to bancor. The State as the main regulator of economic and financial policy uninfluenced by the demands of the short-sighted, of specific classes or communities, is and must be an inescapable factor. Of all the monetary schemes that have been put before the world, the Canadian Scheme seems to be the best suited for the conditions of India as it is founded on the principle that extension of credit should be by means of international organisation, which, however, should pay heed to the temporary as well as permanent needs of the co-operating units. In India's present and likely

monetary position with its need for announcing and carrying out a long-term policy of agriculture and industrial expansion and the raising of wage levels and employment, it is incumbent upon every one to bestow his full attention on questions of economic and financial policy for the purpose of forming and consolidating effective public opinion. Such opinion should systematically influence India and England so that India's future may be fashioned with definite advertence to her interests and for the purpose of equalising not only in theory but in practice her financial position with that of other leading countries and thereby fitting her to play a worthy part in the inter-dependent world-polity of the future.

CAMBRIDGE AT WAR

BY SIR HUBERT SAMS, KT.

AT first sight Cambridge at war seems very much like Cambridge at peace. In Term the University Lecture rooms are still full of gowned undergraduates and between lectures the streets are replete with young men and women careering along light-heartedly on bicycles. Masters and Fellows in cap and gown 'proceed' as sedately as before. Headed by the Serjeant-at-Mace, the Mayor in fur and scarlet, the Aldermen in scarlet, the Councillors in black, go in solemn procession from the Guildhall to Church. The University Sermon is preached. On Sundays the air is filled with peals from the belfries of Churches and College Chapels. Plays and Ballets are staged at the Theatre. On Saturdays the Market Place and streets are thronged by farmers and farmers' wives marketing busily for the week. Cambridge, in fact, carries on in spite of the War and insists on adhering to her ancient customs and ceremonies, her University and her Civic life. Whatever the present contains or the future may hold, she refuses to break with the past.

But over the hard core of tradition, the War has thrown its own net of camouflage. The wide open gates and doors of pre-war times now bear repellent notices forbidding admittance. In 1939, when fifth columnists were feared, these notices were strictly interpreted. Now, in 1944, they say rather more than they mean. Many College windows are blocked by sand-bags. Priceless Chapel glass has been removed to safety. College Courts, formerly bright and cheerful at night, are now as pitch black as the streets. Dons and undergraduates go about their work wearing the battle dress of the Home Guard as often as the more academic cap and gown. Incidentally, the wearing of the cap (or College square) is no longer enforced; for a cap is not easy to come by. Also, both Dons and undergraduates are more and more taking to corduroy trousers which are warmer and last longer than mere cloth "bags" Masters and Fellows of Colleges, who used to drive or be driven in cars, now pedal along humbly on push-bikes. Half of the undergraduates are "Short Course" men, sent to the University by various Ministries. Sometimes they are in civilian clothes and University gown, at others in the uniforms of their branches of the Forces, the battle dress of the Army, the

blue-grey of the Air Force and the dark-blue and deep collar of the lower ratings of the Navy. And so, at Hall dinner as much uniform as academic dress can be seen. More than half the Fellows of any College are away on National Service and double-duty falls on those who remain.

Gone as a pleasant dream are the College Feasts and frequent hospitality between Fellows of one College and Fellows of another College. The College cellars are depleted Every fortnight the Colleges put up in twos and threes visiting officers and men from the U.S A. or Dominions Forces for Monday-to-Friday Courses, on 'Cambridge', 'Shakespeare', 'Homer', 'the British Commonwealth', 'India', etc, etc.. a visit is made to Ely Cathedral. When not listening or sight-seeing, our visitors live intimately in the Colleges, use our Combination Rooms, dine at our High Tables and discover that the average College Don is more human and less stuffy than our visitors had supposed.

Not so many Indians are to be seen in the University as in pre war days. Owing perhaps to difficulties of shipping, the yearly intake has almost ceased. Most of the Indians, who were 'up' in 1939, have taken their Degrees, bade their farewells and gone on to National Service appointments or to other jobs.

Not only the surface of the University, but the aspect of the Town is changed. Many of the shops are closed for want of stock. There are occasional queues mostly for cakes and buns, and for cat and dog food for their pets. "No Saccharine", "No Batteries", No Repairs", "No Wine or Spirits", "No Fish", seem to be everywhere. The streets are full of men and women of our own or other Forces, the women, as often as not, in slacks. Women conduct the buses, collect the railway tickets, deliver and gather the post, carry luggage, work in the gardens or on the farms; and thrice fortunate is the house or flat which has a woman working as a domestic.

When the War is a nightmare of the past, it will amuse us to remember these things.

And now, when hope is in sight, the University and Colleges are planning for the future. As soon as the War with Germany is over, her sons will stream back to Cambridge from the Army, Navy and Air Force and from National Service to pick up the broken threads of their interrupted terms. There will, we think, be an influx of fresh men as the result of Mr. Butler's Education Bill, soon to become an Act of Parliament, and of the great expansion in engineering and research, of which so much is being said and written. So, Alma Mater has to scratch her hoary head and think in advance how to house, feed and teach her large family. She has too much sense of responsibility to adopt the rough and ready methods of the 'Old Woman who lived in a Shoe'.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T, Madras.

FROM TRUSTEESHIP TO PARTNERSHIP

By Mr. G. A. CHANDAVARKAR, M.A.

IN spite of the fact that Sanskrit has been given, along with some other classical languages, the appellation of a 'dead language', its literature has some socio-political maxims that possess considerable interpretative value even after a lapse of two thousand years. Not unoften its 'live ideals' embodied in the Sutras, Shlokas and hymns thrill the imagination and kindle the aspirations of sympathetic readers even to this day. To evaluate them in terms of the postulates of modern thought needs no great stretch of imagination. Although there has been a great change in the social and political conditions now, the fundamentals throughout the history of man's thought have remained the same and some of the maxims of old have a message of their own for our times also. For such a purpose, let us select two such aphorisms from ancient Sanskrit literature and see to what extent their import can be made applicable to modern conditions.

It is a well-known fact that in the history of the evolution of the early Indo-Aryan race, a time there was when the patriarchal system was in vogue. The father was the head of the family and in his own sphere his word was law. But as society advanced, a time must have arrived when the problem of adjusting the relations between the father and his sons must have pressed itself for solution. Consequently, a law had to be laid down as to how a father should regulate his relations with his children, whether as a benevolent autocrat or a malevolent tyrant. That law has been explicitly stated in the following Shloka:—

Pancha Varhsanee Lalayeta, Dashavarshani Tadayeta, Shodashe Varshe Prapte tu Putram Mitravad Achareta.

It means that for the first five years a child should be brought up in an atmosphere of affection, the next ten years he should be kept under strict discipline and after he attains the age of sixteen or majority, he must be treated as a friend or as an equal. It will thus be seen that as far as the relations between a father and son are concerned, three stages have been definitely noted. (1) Kind treatment, (2) enforcement of discipline as a preparation for the battle of life and (3) granting of the equal status. In other words, in due course the relationship has to be changed from trusteeship to partnership and equal status. The question of a life-long subordination or of perpetual subserviency has to be set aside. The father of his own accord surrenders his rights to his son, who, therefore, need not and should not be a rebel. That is exactly the ideal of the third stage of *Vana-Prastha*, when he has to readily part with his old power. On a wider scale, the principles embodied in this Shloka hold good in the case of a king who also occupies the position of a father to his people. Even when he conquers a country he is enjoined to treat the conquered king as his equal or *Mitra* as was exemplified in the case of Beebhishana, Ugrasena or Porus who were all treated generously by Shree Rama, Shree Krishna and Alexander. In modern times the European races that have brought the Asiatic or African races within the orbit of their 'sphere of influence' or under mandated territories lay claim to such a treatment. In the history of the Anglo-Indian relations also a similar claim is set up. Lord Halifax in one of his

illuminating articles contributed to the October issue of the *National Geographic Magazine* (1943, Washington), pertinently remarks:

> British policy in India was crystallised in four main purposes The first was to give security. The second was to give unity. The third was to raise her general, social and economic level And the fourth and the last was to develop her political life We have always believed that with the accomplishment of these purposes, our work in India would be done

Weighty words indeed! From Lord Macaulay to Lord Halifax many English statesmen have been visualising the advent of that 'proudest day' when equal status would be given to India. From the beginning of the nineteenth century to the visit of Sir Stafford Cripps similar sentiments regarding the Indian policy have been echoed and re-echoed by many British political thinkers. By now it can safely be asserted that the three stages referred to by Lord Halifax have been fairly well passed through and the last stage too has been reached. Only it seems that the law of the 'inevitability of gradualness' has been operating and its effects are unpleasant to those that feel instinctively the urge for freedom.

The path leading to the goal of freedom is not without its pitfalls. They may be of pride and prejudice or inordinate love of power and prestige. At present it is pointed out that a 'united and agreed demand' from all the parties in India is not forthcoming and until that happens, nothing can be done. Everything will have to be 'in cold storage.' When disputes arise among the subjects, Kautilya, the famous prime minister of Chandragupta Maurya, suggests in his *Artha-Shastra* (321 300 B.C.) a course which deserves consideration even now. When there is disagreement among the subjects, he says that the king should show his paternalism in three ways. He has first of all to make use of *Vyavahara*—witnesses in a conference—and discuss with them the point at issue. Then the next step he should adopt is to resort to *Charitra*—time honoured customs and traditions. Lastly, he should issue his own *Rajashasana*—royal adjudication giving his final judgment which should be binding on all the parties. In India now a similar situation has arisen. The British Government holds that unless all the parties submit an agreed scheme, nothing can be done substantially to accelerate the progress of the grant of Dominion Status or Self-Government of any type. On the other side, the parties themselves are equally persistent in putting forward their own theories, be they of Pakistan, *Akhanda Hindustan* or *Purna-Swarajya*. When fundamentals themselves are so divergent, it is idle to expect that they would come to any agreement. To cut the gordian knot the Government may at once proceed, to consider the plan of *Kautilya*. As per his *Vyvahara* and *Charitra* the Government should call for a Round Table Conference of all the parties in India and after hearing all their views should forthwith issue their own proclamation as its Royal *Shasana*. There need be no waiting for any further move on the part of the parties. The *Shasana* shall have to be accepted by all. The Communal Award of 1931 and even the Reform Act of 1935 are necessarily forms of such royal adjudication. When a judge gives his judgment, both the plaintiff and the defendant have to accept and abide by it. The point is that the Government should take the initiative and facilitate the solution of the deadlock. Queen Victoria's Royal Proclamation of 1858 acted then as a charm. Now also a proclamation stating

that the Dominion Status has been awarded will at once pour oil on troubled waters. Kautilya held that the Rajashasana is the result of royal paternalism.

In a speech recently delivered by Lord Halifax, he observes: "We have sown in the people seeds of Self-Government and have encouraged nationalism in India from which has grown the demands for independence". Why should the rulers with such good intentions deny themselves the pleasure of making the Indians eat the fruit of that unforbidden tree? Mr. J. Coatman in his thought-provoking book *Magna Brittania* labours hard to prove that the foundations of the British Empire are more philosophic than economic or even historic and that the British Commonwealth of Nations is essentially a moral conception. Reconciliation of the people is a necessary phase of that conception. A strong and contented India is a tower of strength to the expanding British Commonwealth both in times of war and peace. Will not therefore *Rajashasan*—royal adjudication—cement the bonds more firmly and permanently?

THE PHILOSOPHY OF SANKARA*

BY MR. K. BALASUBRAHMANYA AIYAR, B.A., B.L.

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THE great Shankaracharya, known even in his own day with the honorific appellation of 'Bhagavatpada' is one of the greatest philosophers and spiritual teachers of mankind that the world has produced. He has made a profound and lasting contribution to the world's philosophic and religious thought. His inspiration and influence have been very great and abiding in his own country and have also been felt in a very marked degree in the West. I remember in the tenth session of the All-India Philosophical Congress in 1934, presided over by Dr. Mackenzie, the eminent philosophers, Eastern and Western, assembled there, voted unanimously with great enthusiasm for a portrait of Shankara as one of the great philosophers of the world. Scholars differ greatly as regards the age in which he lived, the dates ranging from the second or third century B.C. to the 8th or 9th century A.D. and it is not possible to come to a definite conclusion upon the evidence at present available. But one thing can, with certainty, be stated from the impressions gathered from the internal evidence in his works and from the traditional accounts of his life and achievements, that he was born during a very distracted and unsettled period in the history of Indian thought and culture. He, most probably, should have lived at a time when the pristine ethical purity and all-pervading influence of Buddhism in India was rapidly on the decline and, as a result, there was great chaos and confusion. Innumerable cults and sects arose and divided the minds of men. Corrupt practices and crude superstitions masqueraded in the name of religion and attracted many followers. Tradition records that there were seventy-two cults

*Foreword to Sankara's Select Works. Price Re. 1-4. Published by G. A. Natesan & Co., George Town, Madras.

and sects during Shankara's period, besmirching the fair name of India's ancient noble religion and culture. It was Shri Shankaracharya's marvellous hurricane campaign from Kashmir and Nepal in the North to Cape Comorin in the South —a campaign not of the sword, spelling ruin and destruction, but of intellectual conquest, peaceful persuasion, and loving propaganda that led to the victorious establishment of the unity and purity of enlightened Hindu thought and culture and the banishment of many superstitions, and corrupt practices and rites. He based his doctrines upon the fundamental truths experienced by the immortal seers of our race. The Kapalika, the Shakta and others like them fell before the sledge-hammer blows of his irresistible logic and were absorbed into one fold by his overflowing kindness and his universal tolerance. The ancient well-known six systems of Hindu theism known as the six samayas re-emerged, purged of all excrescences which crept into them during this dark age. Hence it is, that tradition refers to Shri Shankaracharya as 'the establisher of the 'shanmathas'. Wherever we may go in India, whether to Bhadrinath and Amarnath on the snow-clad uplands of the Himalayas or to Kanyakumari and Trichendur in the extreme south of India, we see still to day enduring evidences of his enlightened reforming zeal and spiritual inspiration. He devoted a great part of his energy to the composition of beautiful stotras, in praise of the supreme deities of the six samayas for popular use in our daily prayers and they form a vital part of the Shankara's works that we have now got. In these poems, we can enjoy his many-sided personality as the devout adherent of everyone of these samayas from his standpoint of the unified and comprehensive conception of them. Without the slightest tinge of partiality or preference, he has adapted the stotras to the spirit and technique of the various modes of worship of these six samayas. He is at once, an ardent devotee of Shiva in the Sivanandalahari, a pious worshipper of Vishnu in the Vishnu Padadikesanta stotras, a humble servant of Parasakthi in the Soundarya Lahari and a devoted follower of Skanda and Ganapathi in the poems in their praise. His stotras breathe an intense religious fervour and infuse the ecstasy and pathos of Bhakti and, what is rare, are suffused with the spirit of tolerance for the different angles of vision of the earnest seeker for the Godhead. We see in them not the intellectual aristocrat or the disputing scholiast or the thundering reformer but the devoted supplicant at the feet of the Lord who, in his infinite wisdom, takes many forms suited to the varied mental equipment and differing tastes of his devotees. We find him therein denouncing in strong terms the dissipation of the intellect, energy, and effort of man in the acquisition of book-learning and in fruitless logic-chopping disputation. He proclaims boldly the unpalatable truth "Nahi Nahi Rakshathi Dukring Karane" and "Vritha Kantakshobham Vahasi Tarka Vachasa". To him, religion is realisation, not learning or dialectic.

With the aid of his wonderful spiritual insight, his gigantic intellect, his intuitive genius, his profound and all comprehensive learning and his subtle penetrating logic, he constructed the many-mansioned edifice of Vedanta and rested it on everlasting foundations. Though the great Badarayana and Gaudapada preceded him in evolving

the Vedantic thought, it was Shri Shankara that established the Vedanta as the prince among the darsanas of Indian philosophy. Through his marvellous Bhashya on the Brahma sutras and his lucid and masterly exposition of the meaning of the Upanishads and his clear and forcible commentary on the Gita and through his simple and easy enunciation of Vedantic dotrines in his prakaranas, he formulated and popularised the truths of the Vedanta and brought them home to the millions of his countrymen. He travelled ceaselessly throughout the length and breadth of India in an age when travelling was by no means easy or quick and even walked long distances barefooted and clad in the yellow robes of renunciation and spread his enlightened thought to all the masses. In his all too short life, he worked incessantly for the uplift and spiritual welfare of his countrymen and devoted all his energy to the service of humanity. His loving disciple, Padmapada, bears eloquent testimony in his Panchapadika to the fame and popularity of his great Acharya and to his wholesale dedication of his life for the sake of Lokanugraha and describes in beautiful verse how people flocked to him from all quarters to hear the mellifluous flow of wisdom from his lips.

Though some of his important doctrines and conclusions are challenged by the other schools of Indian Philosophy, the main underlying currents of thought which distinguish the Vedanta as the foremost and distinct darsana have been recognised by them all. It is, indeed, profitable at the present day to emphasise this vital aspect of Shri Shankara's work as a philosopher, as we are apt to lose sight of it in the maze of polemical literature that has grown since his day between the three great schools of Vedanta Philosophy which has only brought to the fore the keen differences among them. The doctrine of the self-evident validity of the Sruti Pramana, and the consequential principle of the supreme authority of the Prasthana Trayas (Upanishad, Brahma sutras and Gita), the doctrine of an ever-existent, unchanging Atma, the acceptance of Iswara as the first cause of the Universe as established by the sruti and not merely by anumana or inference and the theory of Ananda or positive happiness in Moksha as contrasted with the negative view of dukha nivritti of the naiyayika, vaiseshika, sankhya, patanjala and prabhakara schools of Indian Philosophy and the self-luminosity and the sentient blissful nature of Jiva and its characteristic of doer and enjoyer—these and many more are common to all the three schools of Vedanta Philosophy. All these owe their clear elucidation to the genius and masterful exposition of this great world-teacher. Even the great doctrine of Maya, always associated with his name, has been misunderstood as importing the theory of illusion and he has been sometimes denounced as a Crypto-Buddhist (Pracchanna Bauddha). But it is well to remember that Shankara strongly refutes the sunya vada of Buddhist Philosophy, that nothing exists, neither matter nor mind, as well as the Kshanika Vada, that nothing exists for more moments than one and the Vignavada or the theory of subjectivism, the denial of the externality of the world to the thinking subject. The practical utility of the Maya doctrine in its bearing upon life consists in its efficacy for developing the spirit of unity by realizing that differences are unreal. In fact, of the three kinds of Bheda, namely, Sajatiya, Vijatiya and Svagata Bheda into

which all differences in the world can be classified, Shankara would reject all the three as 'untrue,' while Ramanuja would discard the first two and Madhva would refute the first.

Above all, the great service done by Shankara is his method of approach in the discussion and solution of the problems of philosophy. He laid stress on anubhava or integral experience, as the final test of the truth or correctness of any solution and on the acceptance of sruti as the record of the religious experience of the immortal seers of our race. He would not pin his faith on the validity of the conclusions of the finite logical intellect of man. He would often denounce the 'Sugata Samaya' (Buddhist Philosophy) for following the method of implicity accepting the dictates of one's own intellect as the ultimate truth. He believed in flawless reasoning as conducive to the proper interpretation of sruti and of anubhava and accepted the rigorous standards of logic in the elucidation of spiritual truths. He maintained a scrupulous intellectual honesty and rested his conclusions upon well-known and authentic scriptural authority and on accurate quotations therefrom. In the enunciation of his doctrines and in his refutations of the theories of other darsanas he exhibited a calm, sober, reasonable and just attitude and as Sir Radhakrishnan says 'he destroyed many an old dogma not by violently attacking it but by quietly suggesting something more reasonable which was at the same time more spiritual too'. He rarely criticised without mastering fully their intricacies, details and technique the other systems of philosophy and seldom indulged in vituperative language or in attributing motives to his opponents. In one place in his writings where he exhibited an unusual warmth in criticising the theory of the Tarkika, he gently apologises for this lapse by stating that he did not indulge in criticism for its own sake but for the sake of the pursuit and discovery of truth. He was master of an wonderful style and even those who criticised strongly his views admired the power, lucidity, terseness, suggestiveness and beauty of his prose. In his own school of Advaita Vedanta he held a unique place and unlike the case of the other darsanas, his doctrines and theories have been followed with respect and admiration, but never departed from, by any of the brilliant galaxy of Advaita teachers and writers that have succeeded him till the present day.

In him, we have the unique combination of the saint and the ascetic, the scholar and the poet, the philosopher, religious reformer, and man of action. It is refreshing to read the beautiful account of his intense love and devotion to his mother in striking contrast to his cold asceticism. In spite of the many centuries that have elapsed since his passing away, his great inspiration and tradition have been kept fully alive even to-day through the influence of the great mutts he established for the spiritual welfare of succeeding generations of his countrymen and by the illustrious succession of disciples who have adorned the headship of these mutts and shed their spiritual lustre upon their fellowmen.

He taught mankind to love truth, respect reason, practise tolerance and realize the purpose of life. None can deny his rightful place among the immortals of the world.

THE JESTER IN OLD INDIAN DRAMA

By KAMALA SATTHIANATHAN

LIKE the salt in food is the Jester to all drama, the intriguing centre, the inevitable and the indispensable flavour of it. Indian drama is no exception to this rule and Indian drama at that from almost the earliest ages. It is true that the Jester was not found in the Epics, but that only tells us that either the epic did not recognise the existence of drama as it was then, or that the Jester, being at the basis of comedy rather than tragedy, was not thought suited to epic poetry. The omission of the Jester from literary dramas was a very evident fact, but that was because these were not meant to be acted. That he existed in ancient Vedic literature is often argued. As a matter of fact, he is supposed to have originated from the primitive *Mahavratha* rite, in which a black *Sudra* was worsted in fight by a white *Vaisya*, the former representing darkness or winter and the latter the sunlight or summer. He can be compared to the *Harlequin* of European literature, who was originally supposed to represent the devil, and was at first connected with religious ceremonies. Thus, the Jester, though a figure of popular humour, must have had his source, not in secular, but in religious drama; and it can be gathered that his early recognition in Indian drama proves the religious origin of that drama.

We hear a good deal of this character from Dr. Berriedale Keith's book on *The Sanskrit Drama*. It is interesting to note that the Jester in Indian drama corresponds to the *Servus Currens* of *Greek* drama, and the *mokos* of the ancient mime.

The Jester's name in Indian literature was the *Vidushaka*, which meant *the man who abuses*. In the *Mahavrata* ceremony, mentioned above, a Brahmin and a *hetaera* were shown as employed in coarse abuse of each other. Hence, the reason perhaps of the Jester usually being shown as a more or less hideous figure. He was described often as a "Brahmin, ludicrous alike in dress, speech and behaviour. He was a mis-shapen dwarf, bald-headed, with projecting teeth and red eyes, who made himself ridiculous by his silly chatter and his greed for food and presents of every kind. It was a regular part of the play for other characters to make fun of him." Thus we see that very often he was made to speak *Prakrit*, a dialect of Sanskrit, which usually only women were supposed to speak. As a matter of fact, the Vidushaka himself was once made to compare a woman speaking Sanskrit to a young cow with a rope through her nose. And later, in almost every drama, this functionary was represented as constantly in opposition to the Queen's Maid of Honour, with whom he exchanged much acrid repartee. This sort of comic dialogue, called *Prapanca*, was usually the third element in a popular drama, and was used to point out the ugly side of certain characters, or very often represented a clever method of worming out important information from a foolish man. He also often joked on nonsensical subjects with the *Sutradhara, the puller of strings*, in other words, the Director. But, though open to ridicule, it is noticeable that somehow he was not usually subjected to insolent and arrogant treatment. And this was so perhaps, because he was always the friend and confidante of the King, who called him *Vayasya* or *friend*, in spite of the fact that he was paid to amuse his patron.

He was a constant and devoted companion and tried his best to do good service, *even though many of his attempts were* shown as clumsy and futile. And, he was often really witty and humourous, and even educated and accomplished in many ways.

The Vidushaka's personal name was usually derived from the spring season, or from a flower, *e.g.*, he was called in one place *Vasantaka* from the former; and in another, *Komudhagandha* from the latter, meaning *lotus smelling*.

It is rather interesting to trace the Vidushaka through the Indian drama. He was found in ancient Buddhist dramas, some of which belonged to the period of palm-leaf literature of Tibetan antiquity. In *Asvaghosa*, for instance, when Sariputra, the hero, was converted into Buddhism, he talked about his religion to the Vidushaka, his friend, the latter remarking that Brahmins like Sariputra should not listen to the advice of Kshatriyas, to which the hero replied that medicine could be taken from everyone. Thus, he was already established then as a figure of comic relief.

Bhasa, an author of about 350 A.D., made the Vidushaka attain the characteristics relegated later to him. Here, he was described thus by Dr. Keith: "In the *Avimaraka* he distinguishes himself by devotion to his master; he is set on finding him, dead or alive, beyond the grave. Avimaraka himself portrays the character of his friend; he places first, doubtless deliberately, the amusement he produces in social intercourse, but he describes him also as brave in battle, a wise friend, a comforter in sorrow, a violent foe to his enemies. If in the *Pratijnayaugandharayana* he seems to abandon the idea of succouring his master, it is only because he is convinced that Vatsa is dead, and that nothing can be done to save him. *The other side of his character is his* devotion to the pleasures of the table and his feeble attempts at wit and humour. Vasavadatta he remembers fondly, because she used to see that he never lacked sweetmeats. When, in the *Avimaraka* the heroine weeps in love-sorrow, he would like to weep also in sympathy; but no tears come, and he recalls that, even when his own father died, he could hardly weep. When addressed as a man, he insists that he is a woman. He is, however, a Brahmin in his prejudices; he will not drink brandy." In *Vasavadatta*, he was represented as fond of good living, though he saw the evil of it. "Oh, who would have known that after being submerged in such a whirlpool of misfortune we should have come to the surface again? Now we live in palaces, bathe in the wells of the inner apartments, and eat dainty delicious confections. I am enjoying thus a sojourn in Paradise, but for the company of celestial nymphs. There is just one great drawback. I cannot digest my food properly. I get no sleep (even) on a bed furnished with luxurious coverlets. I notice signs of gout everywhere. Oh, there is no happiness in life, devoid of good health and good cheer!" He was also depicted as making some clever observations, like "See that flight of cranes advancing steadily along the clear autumnal sky. Does it not look like the outstretched, beautiful arm of Baladeva?"

In *Mricchakatika*, or the *Little Clay-cart*, attributed to King Shudraka, one of the greatest of Indian dramatists, the Vidushaka was a well educated man, "a citizen of the world", a real friend of the hero, helping him to win his loved

Vasantasena, and finally aiding in his escape from a felon's death. "In Maitreya, the Vidushaka, we find an instance of our author's masterly skill in giving life to the dry bones of a rhetorical definition. The Vidushaka is a stock character, who has something in common with a Jester; and in Maitreya the essential traits of the character,—eagerness for good food and other creature comforts, and blundering devotion to his friend—are retained, to be sure, but clarified and elevated by his quaint humour and his readiness to follow Charudatta even in death. The grosser traits of the typical Vidushaka are lacking. Maitreya is neither a glutton nor a fool, but a simple-minded, whole-hearted friend." There were ridiculous passages, it is true, such as: "When good Charudatta was still wealthy, I used to eat my fill of the most deliciously fragrant sweetmeats, prepared day and night with the greatest of care. I would sit at the door of the courtyard, where I was surrounded by hundreds of dishes, and there, like a painter with his paint-boxes, I would simply touch them with my fingers and thrust them aside. I would stand chewing my cud like a bull in the city market. And now he is so poor that I have to run here, there, and everywhere, and come home, like the pigeons, only to roost." No doubt the Jester was clumsy in many ways, such as letting fall the jewels which betrayed his friend. But he was clever and observant, and intelligent at repartee: "Your wealth has been conveyed to them you love, and like the moon, after she has yielded her nectar to the gods, your waning fortunes win an added charm." "Oh, confound the money! It is a trifle not worth thinking about. It is like a cattle-boy in the woods afraid of wasps; it doesn't stay anywhere where it is used for food." "She walks as gracefully as a female swan, and you are the gay flamingo to accompany her. But I am only a poor Brahmin, and wherever I go, the people will fall upon me just as dogs will snap at a victim dragged to the cross-roads." He was loyal to his friend: "This friend of mine doesn't even draw a flowering jasmine creeper to himself, to gather the blossoms, for fear that a twig might perhaps be injured. How should he commit a crime like this, which heaven and earth call accursed?" "Oh, my friend, have you so known me as to think that I can live without you?"

The famous Kalidasa, who lived probably about 400 A.D., continued this characterisation of the Vidushaka. Schlegel, we are told, observed that the Jester in *Vikramorvasiyam* "bears more affinity to *Sancho Panza* perhaps than any character in Western fiction, imitating him in his shrewdness and simplicity, his fondness for grand living and his love of ease. He takes part in the several intrigues and occasionally suffers for it. He is always lively, sometimes witty, though of no lofty kind. He is at one time careless in betraying the secret of his friend, and he stupidly allows the name of his friend's lover, Urvasi, to be stolen from him; but by that very means he conduces towards his hero's happiness; and he stands by him through thick and thin."

In *Sakuntala*, he was brought in at the very beginning as a grumbler and malingerer: "Ah! What a miserable fate is mine! I am worn to a shadow by waiting on this mad huntsman of a King. He must needs chase from jungle to jungle by paths that

have scarce a strip of shade. For drink, nothing but warm, stinking water from the mountain brooks, bitter with rotten leaves. For food, nothing but the game we roast on spits, swallowed at any chance moment. Even at night, there's no rest, such an uproar of horses and elephants! And who could sleep with his bones all out of joint from the endless galloping? I doze, and then at peep of dawn I am wakened by the hubbub of the beaters—rascally slaves!—surrounding the wood before sunrise, a deafening clatter and chatter! And even that's not the end of the story. There's a new boil growing on the old one. Yesterday, in his headlong hunting, he left us all behind, and in a hermitage whom should he discover, as ill-luck contrived it, but a beautiful hermit-girl, called Sakuntala! From that moment, there's never a thought of going back to the city! He slept not a wink all night for thinking of this damsel. What's to be done? I must be on the watch for my friend. Ah! here he comes, with a girl hidden in his heart. Come, I'll pretend to be crippled. Perhaps, I can wheedle a little rest out of him this way". And, it is to be noticed that he was dismissed from the love-drama, which he might have spoilt by his clumsiness.

But even here he was very vivid in his descriptions, "You are like one, who wearies of sweet dates and craves for the shrewd taste of a tamarind. In your mad longing for this girl, you despise all the beauties of your palace". He helped his friend in diplomacy; and he was cleverly able to deputize for him to his mother and hide his secret from her. This is how the Vidushaka in the pages of Kalidasa was described:

"The humour of the Vidushaka is never coarse; his fondness for food is admitted: cakes and sugar suggest themselves to him, when the hero admires the moon or is sick of love; heroics he despises: the King is summarily compared to a thief in his dislike for discovery: if caught, he should imitate the latter who explains that he was learning the art of wall-breaking. Or again, he is, in his contempt for the ladies of his harem, like one sated of sweet dates and desiring the bitter tamarind. Malavika is summarily treated: she is like a cuckoo caught by a cat when Dharini places her in confinement; but he is no more respectful of himself, for, seized by Malati, he treats himself as a mouse in mortal fear of a cat".

By Harsa of the 7th century A.D., the Vidushaka in *Priyadarcika* and *Ratnavali* "was typical in his greediness, but his figure lacked comic force; he was, however, a pleasant enough character, for his love for his master was genuine; he was prepared to die with him in *Ratnavali*, though he thought his action in rushing into the fire quixotic". In the *Naganánda* he was stupid and allowed himself to be ridiculed, and even stooped to drink wine.

In the plays of Rajasekhara of the 10th century A.D, the Vidushaka helped his friend in his love-affair; and allowed himself to be victimised by an enemy; but later retaliated by punishing his betrayer.

And thus the Vidushaka progressed through Indian drama, till he reached the modern stage, where he is being given more and more the characteristics of the European Jester, some of which are naturalness, even wit of quixotic behaviour, the capacity for detecting humour in the most serious situations and the ability to create efficient comic effects wherever possible.

FUTURE OF ENGLISH STUDIES

By Mr. AMAR NATH GUPTA

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VERY recently a Scheme of National Education for India was prepared by John Sargent, the Educational Commissioner of India, which came up for discussion at a meeting held at Baroda of educationists from all over the country. The memorandum of the Central Advisory Board of Education is ready. The Central Advisory Board of Education, India, is contemplating shortly to submit the Draft Scheme to the Reconstruction Committee of Viceroy's Executive Council. The Scheme is a comprehensive plan of post-war educational development in India leaving not even a single fact of education, which is considered to be conducive to the best interests of the country as a whole. The Scheme seeks to build a new fabric of educational system over the already old crumbling system of education. Change is the cry of the day, and this it promises to extend us. It is the result of the work of the various committees set up by the Central Board of Education in India, including the two Wardha Committees. As English Language at present occupies a prominent place in the courses of the Indian Universities and is compulsorily studied at the Primary, Secondary and University stages, in almost all the Universities of India, English is the medium of instruction except in certain cases upto the Intermediate, the first question that rises in my mind as Professor of English Language and Literature, is as to what place English Language and Literature will occupy in the post-war India, if Sargent's Scheme is adopted unmutilated.

The Scheme is divided into three stages —Primary, High School and the University stage. At the Primary stage free compulsory education will be imparted to children from the age of six to eleven, when there will be a selective test, which will enable students to choose the course for which they are best fitted in life. They will either take up the technical course or the purely academic, as the parents or the committees set for the purpose of selection decide. There will be two types of high schools for the purpose, technical high schools and the academic high schools. The High School or the Senior Basic stage will be of a period of three years and admit students to it at the age of eleven. The medium of instruction at the early basic stage and the later basic stage will exclusively be the Indian Vernacular. Great stress is laid on environment and learning through activity and crafts. Under no circumstances should English find a place in the curriculum of the junior basic (primary) school. Nor is it desirable to introduce it at the senior basic (middle) school, but it is felt that there may be a strong public demand for it in certain areas, and the final decision in this case must be left in the hands of the Provincial Education Department. English Language and Literature will certainly be subjects of study at the University. The recommendations of the Central Advisory Board of Education are fairly explicit on its banishment from the junior basic school; it may or may not be adopted as a subject of study at the senior basic stage according as the exigencies of the situation are, though it is not desirable to introduce it even at this stage; the University stage certainly will have it. The position of English as it will then stand, according to my mind, seems to be like this. In Provinces where English will be adopted for study at the senior basic stage, teaching of its alphabets will be begun when children will be of eleven years of age, and by the time they reach the University stage, they will have some grounding in the subject, but in Provinces where it will be banished from the High School stage as well, its learning and instruction will just commence at the University stage. Its position, therefore, will be reduced to slightly better than that of French and German in the Indian Universities to-day. French and German are taught in some of the Indian Universities, but not on compulsory basis. They are either taught as optional subjects or a separate diploma course is instituted as in the Punjab, Allahabad, Lucknow and Benares Universities. There is no doubt that English

Literature will be relegated to a subordinate position; it will be purely an optional subject. Very few students will offer it as a subject of study. Classes of English Literature will be just ornamental. Only those students will offer it, who have either a love of English Literature for some reason or the other, or those students who have sufficient leisure or time to study the subject. For the study of the language the present curriculum of English will considerably have to be revised. Our aim will simply be to study Language, and not Literature. It will be enough, if we learn to write and speak correct English. For this we may have to seek the help of Basic English, particularly in the Provinces, where English Language will be begun to be read at the University stage. The University stage is of three years duration only and the study of the English Language during this period will be just sufficient for us for inter-communication of ideas with foreign countries. It will be only a medium of international exchange of thoughts. The medium of instruction at the University stage shall necessarily have to be the Indian Vernaculars.

Under the National System of Education, therefore, Indian Vernaculars will be developed, as all the various subjects are proposed to be taught through the medium of the mother-tongue English will occupy only a secondary place in the curriculum of the University or the high schools in certain cases, and rightly so, for English is a foreign tongue and has certainly no right to be studied exclusively, and compulsorily, as it is done to day. Even the Englishmen as late as the beginning of the 19th century were not altogether blind to this problem. In the year 1854, Sir Charles Wood was definitely of the opinion that "the vernaculars could be the only possible media of mass education in India". In the days of the East India Company, the Bengal Committee of Public Instruction recommended that "We conceive the foundation of vernacular literature to be the ultimate object to which all our efforts must be directed". In our own day, Messrs. Abbot and Wood in their Report definitely laid down that "We would therefore urge th so far ble the vernacular should be the medium of instruction throughout the higher secondary schools, leaving English to take its extremely important place as a compulsory first language". The Indians are even more vehement than the Englishmen in their denunciation of English as a compulsory subject of study and medium of instruction for the Indian students. The two men (Indians) from whose pronouncements I cannot help quoting are Dr. Amaranatha Jha, the Vice-Chancellor of the Allahabad University, a teacher and an eminent educationist, and Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh, an eminent journalist; the two men express identical views and that enhances their value. Speaking at a meeting recently held at Sir Ganganatha Jha Hostel, Allahabad, Dr. Amaranatha Jha said:

> After twenty seven years' experience as a teacher of English, I have no hesitation to say that it is almost a crime that we should put so much emphasis on a language which we ourselves did not know correctly I have no manner of doubt that by no means can we rise to the full height of our stature unless we adopt our mother tongue.

In a discourse on "Modern Education" at Ewing Christian College, Allahabad, Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh expressed views on education that, as we have said, are in complete accord with the views expressed by Dr. Amaranatha Jha. "Not only the mother-tongue", said he, "should be substituted for English as the medium of teaching, but the whole spirit of education should be revised. The spirit of the present system of education is purely English". There is and had been in the past insistent demand for the replacement of English by the mother-tongue, for English presents insurmountable difficulties to a foreign learner, who despite his fifteen years close study of the English Language and Literature is still dubbed as a writer of 'Indian English' or 'Baboo English'. English is a foreign language and we can never master the subtle turns of its speech and fine shades of its pronunciation. It remains at a distance from our quarters; we cannot be perfectly initiated into the wondrous mysteries of this foreign language. Why then should a foreign language and literature be imposed upon us, when we are reluctant to

bear its burden? "One language", as K. N. Brailsford has said,

> only holds the key to our emotions, one language only conveys to us, surely and instinctively; the subtler overtones of suggestions which its words possess. That is the language that we use at our mother's knees, the language of our first prayers and our first spontaneous outburst of joy or grief. To make any other the vehicle of education is not merely to add immeasurably to the pupils' labours, it is to lame its mind in its freedom of movement.

And this language that we as Indians can covet is the mother-tongue. It certainly can never be the English language.

But our denunciation of the English Language should not in any sense blind us to some of its merits. It never means that English Language is a bad language or that its Literature is poor. It is, as a matter of fact, one of the richest languages of the world. It has been spoken and studied in India for over a century now. An Indian from the South has almost adopted it as a mother-tongue. When a Madrasi speaks, we cannot, standing behind the arras, distinguish that an Indian is speaking. So fluently does he speak, it appears he has finely acclimatised himself to this foreign tongue. Once Sir P. C. Ray remarked and correctly that there were more readers of the plays of Shakespeare on the bank of the river Ganges than on the bank of Thames. The impact of English Language has given us some of the finest Indian writers of English Prose, a Mahatma Gandhi, a Jawahar Lal Nehru, a Mulk Raj Anand, a Surendranath Banerjee, a D. F. Karaka and Ranjee G. Shahani can wield their pen in writing English language with as much ease and facility as an Englishman does. It is, at present, a world language in the sense that it is used over a large part of the earth. It is a common medium in science, business, diplomacy, sport and important educational matters in some countries of the world. It has its merits and faults. It has taken with lavish hand, and given also with the same lavishness. There are few languages which have not contributed to it, and there is none which have not some English in it. "The language is like the nation". Professor Namier declared, "Simple in forms, illogical on paper, organic but not consciously organised, and rich in resources. Nation and language are both prosaic from choice". "*English language can do many things,*" as a journalist once said. Professor Namier describes the merits of the English language:

> English Prose is a perfect instrument, brief and elliptic, clear and precise and yet offering the most ample opportunities for hedging. If you wish to be explicit, you can, but you can also say things without saying them, and convey your meaning safe from being pinned down to it.

Mahatma Gandhi wanted the Britishers to quit India, yet he is one of the greatest admirers of English Literature. So do the other Indian patriots. We dislike the Britishers, but never their tongue. We can love our culture side by side with the British culture.

The English language has conferred various advantages on us. It has proved to the Indians a blessing in disguise. Nevertheless, we cannot forget till infinity our Language and Literature. Time has come to resuscitate them. There is a country-wide pressure to adopt our mother-tongue as the principal medium of instruction. But we have no magician's wand with us to achieve this in a day. Rome, after all was not built in one day. It will take some time before this miracle of a complete metamorphosis takes place and before the Indian vernaculars oust English completely. Mr. Sargent himself considers that it will take about thirty to forty years, this process of hide and seek of the one language with the other. It is also likely that the whole scheme may not be accepted by the British Government. There are, of course, insurmountable difficulties in its way. Besides, English has a long standing of over hundred years in India. It cannot be displaced overnight, nor should it be, nor is it aimed to do so. The need is that gradually a ground be prepared for it by the enrichment of our Indian vernaculars, which are progressing by leaps and bounds every day. English is besieged from all sides. English Literature has been reduced to an optional subject. Upto the Intermediate stage almost in all the Universities and the Boards Indian Vernaculars have been acknowledged and adopted as medium of instruction and the question of their adoption at the Degree

stage is under the serious consideration of the educationists in our country. The Osmania University of Hyderabad has done considerable good work in the sphere of Urdu language and Literature. The plans of a similar academy of Hindi at Gwalior are under the consideration of an *ad hoc* Committee appointed by the Gwalior Durbar to look into the matter. English has been shaken in its steadfast position, which it has occupied with pride for so long. A storm is already brewing against it in the country. It cannot certainly hold supremacy here. The future of English study is not very bright in this country. In spite of the many repurcussions against English, none denounces its value as a medium of international exchange. If not compulsory, yet it will be studied, though in the closet. English will not be popular with the masses, but it will always have a few serious students in India, it will not altogether disappear, though its position will be that of the handmaiden to the Indian vernaculars. For as it has been said by a journalist sometime ago.

A country or language that tries to live in isolation must be weakened If the British are to quit India, there would be no reason why the Authorized version and Paradise Lost should quit also.

WAR AND OUR FOREIGN TRADE

By Mr. V. R. KRISHNA RAO, M.A., M Litt.

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THE foreign trade of the country is a conclusive index of her economic development. If a very high proportion of the imports be manufactured goods and similarly high proportion of exports be raw materials, it means that the country is not industrially developed. If a country has got an excess of imports over exports, that is, an unfavourable balance of trade in merchandise, generally that country has got extensive investments abroad on which she receives annually large interest charges. These two factors are illustrated in a forcible manner by a contrast of our trade with that of Britain.

Before we indicate the effects of war on our external trade, it is necessary to outline its main features. The main characteristics of our sea borne trade are—

(1) the bulk of exports comprises raw materials and foodstuffs and on the import side, a high percentage of imports represents manufactured items. This shows that India still depends for her manufactured goods on foreign countries. But a slight improvement in the percentage of manufactured items to total exports has been noticed since the beginning of this century and this tendency received further impetus by the war of 1914-18, during which period the percentage recorded an appreciable increase. However this increase in the percentage was not maintained after that war.

(2) The second characteristic of our trade is that our imports consist of a wide range of articles, while the export trade is confined to a few great staples like raw cotton, jute, oil-seeds, etc.

(3) Thirdly, Great Britain holds a predominant position in our foreign trade and especially on the import side. On the export side, she is the most important single customer. But here, too, there has been a tendency of diversion of trade from Great Britain to other countries, notably Germany, Japan and U.S.A.

(4) India, almost every year, has a large favourable balance of trade in merchandise. The average for twenty years before the present war has been well over Rs. 50 crores per annum.

We shall endeavour to examine the effects of war on our trade in regard to the above points. As soon as the war was declared, our foreign trade came under the Government control. Trade with

the enemy and enemy-occupied countries was prohibited. Exports and imports have to be controlled to see that the materials required for our war effort are available; (2) basic materials do not reach the enemy; (3) to conserve foreign exchange to facilitate finance for empire's purchases in neutral countries; and (4) to remove congestion on the available shipping space. As a result of these restrictions, the aggregate loss in our trade was in value Rs. 112 crores, of which Rs. 53 crores represent exports and Rs. 59 crores represent imports. In terms of commodities India lost markets for oil-seeds, hides and skins, raw cotton and jute, etc. The effect of the loss of these markets was slump in the prices of these commodities. But the subsequent developments of war, such as the expansion of Indian cotton industry, Indian and allied Government's war orders, etc., remedied the situation. Leaving aside exports on Government account for which figures are not available, our export trade has made up much more than loss due to the prohibition of trade with the enemy countries. The figures below prove this fact:

TABLE 1

Year	Exports Rs.	Imports Rs.
1938 39	163 crores	152 crores
1939-40	204 „	165 „
1940 41	187 „	157 „
1941-42	237 „	173 „
1942-43	188 „	110 „

It is also clear from the above table that our import trade has suffered a great deal which resulted in serious shortages of many articles like machinery, drugs and medicines, electrical goods, etc. Both Britain and United States of America could not make up this shortage. The result is the rise in the prices in the country.

The war has conferred certain advantages on our manufacturers. The removal of the foreign competition from the Indian and Near East markets has made it possible to increase our exports of manufactured goods. This is reflected in the changes in the composition of our export trade. The following table illustrates the above changes:

TABLE 2

	1938-39	1939-40	1940-41	1941-42	1942-43
1. Per cent. of articles wholly or mainly manufactured goods to the total exports	29	37	43	46	51
2. Per cent. of raw materials and produce mainly unmanufactured to the total exports	45	42	33	27	23

From the above, it is clear that the positions of raw materials and manufactured goods in our export trade have been interchanged. The place lost by raw materials is gained by the manufactured items and now 50 per cent. of our exports represents manufactured goods. On the face of it, it seems to be revolutionary but further examination will explode this myth. During the last war, a similar change in the composition of our trade took place. The percentage of exports of manufactured goods to the total in 1913-14 was 22 and it rose to 37 per cent. in 1918-19. We have seen from Table 2 that this percentage in 1938-39 was 29 only. Thus the ground gained during the last war was subsequently lost. The change in the composition of our trade is as temporary as it was during the last war. We may examine this aspect from another point. In 1938-39, the export of cotton goods was valued at Rs. 7 crores and this is just 4·3 per cent. of our total exports and in 1942-43, the value of exports rose to Rs. 46 crores and the percentage to 24·5. Therefore it can be safely said that the increased proportion of manufactured goods to the total exports is mainly due to greater exports of cotton goods. And the export of the cotton goods has been allowed at the expense of domestic consumption. Thus it is clear that the change in the composition of our trade does not reflect industrialisation of the country. In further support of this conclusion, we produce below the imports of machinery during 1938-39 and 1942-43:

TABLE 3

	1938-39 Rs.	1942-43 Rs.
Value of imports of machinery ...	19·7 crores.	10·5 crores.

This again shows that we are not only receiving the capital equipment for new industries, but also not sufficient machinery to make up for the wear and tear. This means in its turn 'watering down' of our capital equipment. This is not a position to gloat over.

Next we proceed to note the effect of war on the direction of our trade It was mentioned already that there has been diversion of trade from Great Britain. The following table indicates this point:

TABLE 4

TRADE WITH BRITAIN

PERIOD	IMPORTS	EXPORTS
Pre 1914-18 war average	62·8 p.c.	25 1 p.c.
1914-18 average	56 5 ,,	31 1 ,,
Post 1914-18 war average	57 6 ,,	24 4 ,,
1938-39	30 5 ,,	34 3 ,,
1939 40	25 2 ,,	35 1 ,,
1940 41	22 8 ,,	34 7 ,,
1941 42	21 1 ,,	32 5 ,,
1942-43	27 0 ,,	30 1 ,,

The war has only shakened the pace of the tendency of the diversion of trade from Great Britain. Next to Great Britain, U S.A. has become the biggest customer and on the import side also she stands second only to England. Before the war, her place was fourth one. The table below points out the ascendancy of the U S.A.

TABLE 5

TRADE WITH U S.A.

	IMPORTS Rs	EXPORTS Rs.
1938 39	9 8 crores	14 3 crores
1942 43	19 0 ,,	27·8 ,,

Next we examine the balance of trade in merchandise, *i.e.*, excess of exports over imports.

BALANCE OF TRADE

TABLE 6

1938 39	17 5 crores
1942-43	78 0 ,,

India enjoys favourable balance of trade both with the Empire and non Empire countries and in both the cases there is an appreciable increase. Before we leave this point, it may be mentioned that as a result of war the balance of payments has also become favourable to India. This is due to the repatriation of our sterling debt and the commutation of sterling pensions. Thus India is to-day a creditor nation and the relation of India to Great Britain is revolutionised.

Finally it has to be mentioned that in spite of the favourable position in which India is placed in respect of foreign trade, the terms of trade, *i.e.*, exchange of imports for our exports are going against us. The table below indicates the costliness of our imports:

TABLE 7.

Period	Index of prices of unit value of exports and imports (1927 28=100)		
	Imports	Exports	Imports / Exports
Aug. 1939	69	60	105
Aug. 1940	87	70	124
Aug 1941	99	90	110
Aug. 1942	140	98	143

The conclusions from the above study are —

(1) The favourable position of our foreign trade (export trade) is at the expense of the domestic consumer and this reacts on internal price system unfavourably;

(2) the fall in imports created shortage of many articles and this produced rise in the price level;

(3) the favourable position indicated by changes in the composition is deceptive. It does not indicate further industrialisation of the country. On the contrary, the heavy reduction in the import of machinery shows that our capital equipment is seriously subjected to greater wear and tear and thus to greater depreciation; and

(4) in spite of our favourable position in regard to our export trade, the imports are growing costly in terms of our exports.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

BEHIND THE MUD WALLS. By Mrs. Freda Bedi. The Unity Publishers, Lahore. Rs. 5.

Books on India by Western authors were for a very long time, apt to be either fairy tales or calumnies. To melodramatic or to disingenuous authors, this country appeared to have the effect of a red rag to a bull. It is not impossible to imagine what Miss Katherine Mayo, for example, would have conjectured or invented as to what is happening "behind the mud walls" in India. But no greater contrast can be imagined than that between the egregious American woman and the author of this book, an English lady, married to a socialist leader of the Punjab.

Mrs. Bedi, even in her somewhat unusual position, has instinctively realised the abiding pathos of the land of her adoption; in her own attractive sentences, "she has harrowed me with her festering poverty, her dirt and her despair. She has projected me into her many-layered past and re-created me a dozen times in the guise of her many cultures." In the first of the twenty articles contributed during the last seven years, which comprise the book, Mrs. Bedi makes a testament of her faith in India, which is amply illustrated in the following contributions. Set against the background of the villages of the Punjab, her sketches of the simple villagers are striking. Extracts from her diary when she was a "political" prisoner are included.

Despite strong temptation to be violent and melodramatic, the style is quiet and persuasive. This knowledgeable book is also, in many ways, an effecting one. It belongs to the class of the writings of Sister Nivedita or Mr. E. M. Forster.

HEALTH AND HOW TO KEEP IT. By Capt. B. L. Raina, I.M.S. New Book Co., Bombay. Rs. 2.

This is a valuable treatise on health and nutrition, intended specially for use in India. The book will be for use to those who are interested in the subject of nutrition and who seek for intelligible scientific information on all matters of health.

RAMALINGASWAMIJI OF CHIDAMBARAM, HIS LIFE, MISSION AND STUDIES. By T. V. G. Chetty, Bangalore. Rs. 2 or 8sh.

Born one hundred and fourteen years back, Mahatma Ramalingaswami is still believed to be alive, though he disappeared miraculously from the sight of persons long ago. He was initiated into the worship of the Dancing Lord of the Golden Hall in Chidambaram. He made many places hallowed by his association, and his chief literary production he has left us is the *Tiru Arulpa*, the outpourings of his soul. He founded a hall of worship and a shrine of lamp with curtains in representation of man and his soul. He preached the highest religion of Ahimsa and Love.

Mr. T. V. G. Chetty's book contains an account of the life of this Saint of Marudur and Chidambaram, and an exposition of his teachings. The writer devotes sections to the saint's literary productions in which he gives us his appreciation with copious quotations. Fine coloured plates of all the places associated in Tamil Nad with the saint and a map of the part of this Presidency connected most with him, add to the value of the book.

RATIONALE OF POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION. By V. Sundaramurthy, Bangalore.

This is a brochure by V. Sundaramurthy of Bangalore. As he himself admits, he confines his attention to the Province of Mysore, though he says, he keeps in mind that it is a world problem. He believes that social reconstruction must be immediately taken on hand and treated as a "war-time need, as war effort, and certainly as a peace effort". He is very modest and professes only "to throw a few hints, suggest a few lines of action, and mark out the road". But it is a pity that the road is a tame affair, full of the usual sign-post slogans, such as, food is fundamental, enlist, the peasant, and industrialisation.

YOGA FOR ALL or the Religion of the Gita. By Swami Dharma Theerthaji Maharaj. Published by *Hindu Missionary Society, Lahore.* Rs. 1-8.

The booklet under notice is a powerful plea for the study of the Bhagavad Gita and the application of its principles to life in general. It explains the main spiritual truths embodied in the eighteen chapters of the Gita. The author brings out the central message of the Gita. The Gita explains the supreme value of self-effort, as a means to moral and spiritual progress, along the path of each individual's inherent tastes and qualities (svadharma). The Gita stress is not on the renunciation of worldly duties, but on the performance of them in a disinterested and unselfish spirit, as an act of divine worship, and used as a stepping stone to the attainment of perfection. The Gita stands for *Phala-sannyasa* and not *Karma sannyasa.* The Hindu Missionary Society has helped the cause of Hinduism by the publication of this volume. As an introduction to the Gita, the book is admirable.

SCIENCE, CAUSE AND GOD. By J. B. Freeman. Rs. 5. Available at Ave Maria, Chingleput.

The volume under review is an able and critical examination of the central philosophical category of cause. The problem of causation has engaged the attention not only of ancient philosophers but also of modern physicists. Mr. Freeman, in the first part of the book, traces the history of the concept of cause in traditional philosophy. In the second part, he adverts to a clear and simple discussion of the place of causation in modern science. Here he gives a lucid summary of the views of the leading scientists, Jeans and Eddington.

We wish the author had at least indicated in brief the view point of the Indian metaphysician in respect of the category of cause. The Nyaya system of Philosophy and Post-Sankara thinkers have contributed a great deal towards the classification of this central philosophical problem. The volume is helpful to the student of European Philosophy in understanding the place and the status of the category of cause.

THE GATHAS. By J. M. Chatterjee. Cherag Office, Navsari.

The Gathas form a part of the Avesta, the scripture of the Parsis. In this book the author has selected many of the Gathas and printed them in Devanagari type. There are translations in English and Gujarathi. Considering the scarcity of books from which one can have an idea of the sacred literature of the Parsis, this is a welcome book.

BOOKS RECEIVED

MODERN ISLAM IN INDIA A Social Analysis. By W. C Smith, The Minerva Book Shop, Anarkali Street, Lahore Rs 10

INDIA AND THE PARSIS By R. F. Rustamji. Foreword by The Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. B. Nuyogi

THE EXPECTANT MOTHER AND HER CHILD By M A. Kamath, M B & C M., Mangalore Rs 2-12.

MANHOOD RESCUED By Dr S J Singh, All-India Nature Cure Association, Lucknow.

PAPER BOATS By K. S Venkataramani (Fifth Edition of this very popular little book of sketches of South Indian life) Swetaranya Ashrama, Mylapore Rs. 4.

SIVAJI A Historical Tale of the great Mahratta hero and patriot By Romesh C. Dutt, Rendered into English by Ajoy C. Dutt, Kitabistan, Allahabad Rs 4 8

DIAMONDS IN THE DUST: TALES OF EVACUATION OF BURMA. By Douglas Lackersteen, Kitabistan, Allahabad Re. 1

SRI VALLABHACHARYA Life, Teachings and Movement. By Bhai Manilal C Parekh, Sri Bhargava Dharma Mission, Harmony House, Rajkot.

FUTURE OF HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN INDIA. By M P Gandhi, Gandhi & Co., Fort, Bombay. Re. 1

THE MAHABHARATA Story narrated in English by S Sitaramayya, Shembaganore, P.O., via Kodaikanal Road, S I R

POLITICAL REALISM An appeal for bold action. A pamphlet by C. V. Rajagopalachari, Chengalpattu, North Arcot District

MODERN PERSIAN POETRY. By Dr Mohammad Ishaque, M A., Ph D (Lond.) Ripon Printing Press, Bull Road, Lahore.

STALINGRAD By Chetand Anand Free India Publications, The Mall, Lahore

THE CONGRESS CASE By Jag Parvesh Chander, Free India Publications, The Mall, Lahore.

BURMA BACKGROUND. By B. R. Pearn. Longmans, Madras

BURMA SETTING. By O. H. K. Spate, Longmans, Madras.

BUDDHISM IN BURMA. By G. Appleton, Longmans, Madras.

UNITED NATIONS AND INDIA

By Mrs. FRANCES GUNTHER

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Mrs. Frances Gunther, like her famous husband, has travelled widely and written a lot about the peoples and countries she has visited. But in her latest book—Revolution in India—she pleads convincingly for India's independence to a wide circle of American and European public who may not be familiar with the *details of the Indian problem.* The Freedom movement in India has no more intrepid advocate in the United States than this tireless lecturer and writer whose plea for a change in British policy finds eloquent expression in the following extract.—Ed. *I.R.*

THE Indian revolution is a good revolution. All revolutions probably begin 'good'. There is no original sin in the birth of a revolution—sin comes later. Just as the French revolution was for political democracy and the Russian revolution for economic democracy, so also the Indian revolution is trying to bring forth a kind of psychological democracy wherein reason and goodwill may create a livable balance between conflicting and divergent forces of politics and economics. The power of goodwill in international relations may, like the power of Radium, prove its *beneficence in skilled use.*

The Indian revolution is the first entirely above ground in history, a revolution that has undeviatingly followed the policy of using a revolution without hate, terror, spy-system, treachery and assassination; a revolution wherein all the habitual evils of revolution are ruled out; wholly honourable means to achieve its *end—a revolution wherein the end is* held to be the mutual renunciation of dominating power and the mutual assumption of co-operating goodwill. The Indian revolution has two aspects, internal and external. Internally India wants to establish herself as a Modern Free Democracy and free herself from Britain without bloodshed, without war. Because is she afraid of losing the war? No, On the contrary, because she is so sure of winning it. Her reasoning runs somewhat like this: "Here we are a great nation of 390 million people, ancient and conquered, now renascent, reincarnate, young again and strong. We have to some extent industrialised and mechanised and modernised ourselves. Indian soldiers have fought bravely abroad and have tasted victory. The sympathy of the United States, Russia, China and the whole of the free world is with us in our passion to be free. Ultimately nothing can withstand us—certainly not the five hundred ruling Britishers who symbolise the power of the British Empire in India. We know *the technique of revolution, know how* to seize power, know how Lenin did it, how Hitler and Mussolini did it, how Cromwell, Napoleon and Washington did it too. Neither of us are savage people. We are civilised, mature peoples who have experienced and observed the lessons of history—we know the patterns of the past. Must we repeat them over and over again? Can we not learn from them to avoid murder, hatred, strife and infantile wars and to mature peace—in friendship"? Along comes such lines of steadfast and undeviating revolution against the British rule since 1930 when independence was first declared. India now is on the threshold of winning independence. It will not have been donated by England. It will have been won by the Indian people themselves alone by their *own blood, their own sweat, their own* toil and their own tears—and their own pains—in a revolution, unique in history for its powerful self-control and heroic generosity, civilised dignity and gallantry. It is unlikely that by making itself sufficiently heard, popular opinion in the United States may reinforce popular opinion in England and could influence the English Government to relinquish responsibility to representative Indian Government. With the full co-operation of such an Indian Government, the United Nations would have no extraneous problems to solve in India and could proceed to the job of winning the war—and peace. But it would take nothing less than a revolution in English foreign policy to effect such a change in English policy on India. Is such a revolution likely?

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Bombay Fire Tragedy

BOMBAY has suffered one of the worst calamities of recent times. Two explosions following a fire in a ship lying in the docks caused such wide-spread havoc that it took more than 48 hours to arrest the conflagration. Damage to persons and property has been serious. 860 lives were lost and 1,798 casualties were treated in the hospitals. Thousands of Bombay's two million people were rendered homeless, while hundreds of buildings have been shattered. The fate of the people caught in the inferno and those who escaped from the scene of horror might well be imagined. Apart from the immediate effects of the tragedy, we are told that 55,000 tons of foodgrains have been lost in the disaster. Government and Municipal authorities and leading citizens lost no time in bringing succour to the afflicted. Rescue work by soldiers and civilians, the A.R.P. men and members of the Fire Brigade and services has been prompt and commendable. But the disaster is of such huge dimensions that reconstruction work must be undertaken on a gigantic scale.

The Government of India have decided to appoint a commission of inquiry into the Bombay explosions, and to give an immediate grant of Rs. 5 lakhs for the relief of distress.

The G. O. M. of South India

In the death of Dr. C. Vijayaraghavacharya—the grand Old Man of South India—a titan has gone to his rest. Acharyar lived to the ripe old age of 92, of which at least six decades were spent in vigilant pursuit of public causes. One of the pioneers of the Congress, he was intensely patriotic and retained to the end his unabated interest in all progressive movements.

Like many an old Congressman, Mr. Acharyar was a double first—a lawyer-politician—reaching eminence in either vocation. His early struggles and sufferings and the way he met and overcame them gave him that sense of realism which distinguished his political leanings.

Mr. Acharyar was a member of the old Imperial Legislative Council where in the words of Pandit Malaviya "his unyielding independence and incisive logic made him a source of great strength to the people's cause". He was to have presided over the Delhi Congress of 1918, but with a fine sense of courtesy—so unlike Subash Bose's on a later occasion—he withdrew in favour of the good old Pandit with whom Mr. Acharyar had many things in common, besides his great age, his conservatism, his indomitable spirit and much else. The nation honoured Mr. Acharyar by electing him to preside over the historic Nagpore session where Gandhiji piloted his famous Non-Co-operation resolution.

Courage and high character and unbending rectitude characterised Mr. Acharya's more than half a century of public life and it will be long before we can look upon his like again.

The Punjab Ministry

It will be recalled that at a time when every vote counted in the Central Assembly during the budget debate, Mr. Jinnah thought nothing of being away from Delhi. He was all the time busy in the Punjab, making Himalayan efforts to tear up to shreds the Coalition Ministry now functioning in that Province. So far he has found himself up against a stone wall. The Punjab Premier, while protesting loyalty to the League, would do nothing to disturb the present coalition. Sir Chhoturam, the Revenue Minister whom Jinnah tried to persuade, proved "adamant".

The correspondence that has passed between the Premier and Mr. Jinnah makes it clear that Mr. Jinnah wanted that the present label of the Unionist party as a coalition should be dropped and that the name of the proposed coalition should be the Muslim League coalition party. The Premier has firmly refused to agree to the demand. He has emphatically stated that he would be guilty of a breach of promise to the other communities of the Punjab by forming a Muslim League coalition party. The Premier further points out that in the best interests of the Muslims he cannot accept Mr. Jinnah's demand for the Muslims of the Province "refuse to be divided amongst themselves or accept outside interference to their detriment."

Section 93 for the Provinces

Both the Houses of Parliament have given their assent to the Secretary of State's motion for the continuance in force of the Proclamation issued under Section 93 of the Government of India Act in respect of the five Provinces now under Governor's rule. For another twelve months the Provinces of Madras, Bombay, C.P., U.P. and Behar will continue to be ruled by the Governors and their advisers and there will be no room for popular legislatures. So this is the end of all the efforts of so many good men who have, in spite of failures and disappointments, refused to be deflected from their unwearied endeavours to end the deadlock. If arguments and appeals to the good sense and wisdom of those in authority could win a case, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru's plea at the Non-Party Conference could hardly be improved. "So long as the leaders of the Congress or any particular party are denied this freedom to approach the other parties for the purpose of settlement," said Dr. Sapru, "we need expect no change in the situation". It is exactly this freedom which is to-day denied to the leaders in prison.

> "The one ground which is now urged against the release is", says he, "that they have not so far repudiated the resolution of 1942. I venture to submit that no settlement of big political issues can be brought about in this spirit. It was not brought about in this spirit in the case of South Africa, Ireland or Egypt. I say that however much I may differ from or deplore the resolution of 1942, the demand that the leaders who have not even been tried by any independent tribunal should from their places of confinement admit their error and repudiate the conduct attributed to them, strikes me as being in the nature of a coercive process which is not likely to yield any salutary results."

And yet in the short debate on India and Burma Orders Mr. Amery thought fit to repeat the old, exploded charges against the Congress. With the House constituted as it is, it was quite easy for him to get his motion passed. It was entirely irrelevant and unnecessary for him to embark on a tirade against the Congress. Indeed his allegations were so unfair and unworthy of the House that a Labour Member characterised them as too wide and contentious in the absence of fuller opportunities for a debate on the subject and the Speaker of the House politely but firmly asked Mr. Amery to reserve his thunders to a full dress debate.

The plain fact is, Government are unwilling to part with power and find an easy excuse in the so-called intransigence of the Congress. For if the Congress is not amenable, what of the League? Dr. Sapru said significantly the League has been "fooled".

If this is the position in the Provinces, the Centre is no better. Mr. Amery may flatter the Viceroy's Council as a body of "wise and patriotic men." The public prefers to use other epithets in respect of them. Dr. Sapru is not given to extravagant phrases of denunciation; but he is forced to say:

> that there has not been during the last quarter of a century or more an Executive Council with less hold on the public mind or with less moral prestige in the country.

India and the U.N.R.R.A.

The Government of India's participation in the activities of the United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration came in for discussion both in the Central Assembly and the Council of State. The Assembly's approval of such participation is qualified by a recommendation that "any area important to military operations of the United Nations which is stricken by famine or disease" should be brought within the scope of the relief contemplated.

The Commerce Member explained the scope of the U.N.R.R.A. It was not intended to provide relief to areas affected by war conditions but "the object was to give relief to those areas which would be liberated by the allied forces either by conquest or by the retreat of the enemy". Even so, this country has been invaded, and legally and technically might come within the orbit of the United Nations' relief. Apart from this, there are special considerations, such as famine and disease and the conditions created by the war which make such relief necessary. And then, India which contributes to the Fund, has a right to proper representation in the organisation.

Government of India and Overseas Indians

Since the days of Lord Hardinge, a wholesome convention has continued to distinguish our attitude to the question of our countrymen abroad. Whatever may be our differences in regard to domestic issues, the Government of India's policy in regard to overseas Indians has been in complete harmony with public sentiment. The Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri's letters recently published in Madras reveal how the Department, then presided over by Sir Mahomed Habibullah, was always in close and cordial relation with Indian public opinion as represented by the Agent-General Mr. Sastri in South Africa and Mr. Gandhi in India. Such harmony, undoubtedly made a great difference in our approach to the vexed question of the position of Indians in South Africa. It is a pity that Dr. Khare, the present Overseas Member of the Viceroy's Council, has by what one must call, his tactless and provocative utterances drawn upon himself the wrath and even the contempt of important groups in the Central Legislature. Dr. Khare found more than a match for him in the leader of the Muslim League Party who thought nothing of trouncing the Overseas Member in terms which bode ill to that united and effective stand which the cause demands. That cause certainly acquires great strength when backed by the public and Government alike.

Apart from this, the change of the name of the Department of Indians Overseas into the Department of Commonwealth Affairs is, as the *Indian Social Reformer* points out, both untimely and of sinister significance.

> It is untimely because it forestalls the decision which, under the Cripps and other schemes of constitutional reform, is to be made by Indians when the time comes to frame a constitution, as to whether India will remain within the British Commonwealth. This decision will depend on the attitude of the Dominions and of the British Government towards India at the post-war settlement. The change prejudices a free decision at the proper time. The Department of Indians Overseas looked after the interests of Indians in the British Colonies, Dominions and in foreign countries. The Dominions have from time to time raised objections to the interference of the Government of India in their treatment of Indians domiciled in them. The answer has been that, so long as Indians remain unenfranchised, they were entitled to have the protection of the mother country. In the Colonies too, the British Colonial Office has not taken kindly to the intervention of the Indian Government to protect Indian interests. As regards Indians in foreign countries, the Department of Indians Overseas has enjoyed the right of formulating proposals for the protection of Indian nationals, though the correspondence with foreign governments rested with the External Department. The Department of Commonwealth Affairs will be presumably debarred from interesting itself in the fate of Indians in foreign countries. This is a serious handicap. It prevents the Government of India from having a consistent policy of dealing with questions relating to Indians abroad.

The Truth about the Subsidy to I. F. L.

There has been a persistent rumour that the Indian Federation of Labour sponsored by Mr. Jamnadas Mehta and Mr. M. N. Roy is being subsidised by Government. Even the exact amount of the subsidy was being talked about. Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, presiding over the last session of the Conference in Bombay, thought fit to repudiate the allegation with great vigour. Surprisingly enough, Dr. Ambedkar, the Labour Member, made the astounding revelation in the Central Assembly the other day that the Federation of which Mr. Mehta is the President is being subsidised to the tune of Rs. 18,000 a month for "doing propaganda to keep up the morale of India's industrial labour." Ten days later, after Mr. Mehta had sailed for Philadelphia as Government of India's nominee to the International Labour Conference, a downright repudiation of Dr. Ambedkar's statement appeared in his name in the Indian press. The Labour member's admission and Mr. Mehta's disclaimer have created an intriguing situation. Is it possible that Mr. Mehta, the President, is kept in the dark, while Mr. Roy, the Secretary, is getting the subsidy for the Federation? Whatever it is, this transaction thoroughly discredits the Labour organisation. For Mr. Mehta's contradiction is meaningless in view of the Labour Member's definite statements and the provision made for such payments in the Government of India's budget since 1942. How can Indian opinion have confidence in the nominees of Government, whose credentials are suspect?

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

Invasion of Europe

NAZIS are expecting an imminent invasion of Europe. The dread is already creeping on their nerves.

The German Radio said on April 21: "The Royal Navy is already concentrating in Home waters. It is the greatest concentration of ships since Dunkirk, and includes Naval Craft of American, French and other allied fleets, and Units of Italian Navy." The Radio added, "Every day new troop-trains are leaving London stations, taking men to Channel ports and ports on the East and South coasts."

The German Command expects that the Allies will launch a new offensive in Italy at the same time as they invade Western Europe. A German Military spokesman is reported to have observed:

> New British and American concentrations at Nettuno are not consistent with the present passivity on the Italian front and it is expected that these forces are being held in reserve for a great new offensive against the north of Italy at the same moment as the landing attempt is made in the west.

The Imphal Front

Evidently the Jap army that has penetrated to the Manipur area is facing stiff resistance from the united forces. A correspondent writes:

> While we are holding Japanese in the Bishenpur sector, we are continuing to make progress north and north-east of Imphal town. Operations which were launched to recover Mapao, a 5,000-foot mountain crest a couple of miles east of Sengmalt were successfully ended now and Punjabi troops gained possession of the hill-top. The Japanese left their dead in bunkers and there were fresh graves where more of their compatriots lay buried.

Future of Italy

Mr. Eden, the Foreign Secretary, told Parliament on the 26th April that the Allies welcomed King Victor Emmanuel's decision to withdraw from public affairs by appointing his son, Crown Prince Umberto, Lieutenant-General of the Realm.

Mr. Eden added that the Allies approved because it was likely to contribute to the formation of a Government on a broader basis. Such a Government has now been constituted.

The Assault on Sebastopol

The big battle for the roads to Southern Poland and Central Europe is reaching its fierce climax amid the Carpathian foothills.

At the same time, Soviet guns and planes are joining in the great assault on the Crimean naval base of Sebastopol.

Massed German tanks and infantry, backed by fleets of dive-bombers, have kept up a ceaseless assault on the Soviet *Stanislavoy positions.*

At the other end of the South Russian front, the Red Army is dealing out terrific punishment to Axis forces in Sebastopol. Hundreds of tons of metal are being poured into the garrison there from land and sea.

Bitter fighting is taking place all round the city.

Restoration of Czechoslovakia

It is reliably learnt that the Benes Government has reached an agreement with Russia for the restoration of pre-war Czechoslovakia.

It is understood that Russia gave the Czech Government assurances that Moscow will not interfere with the internal matters enabling the establishment of Czech civil administration when the first part of the country is liberated.

It is understood that the Agreement includes maintenance of pre-war Czech borders.

Turkey's Pro-allied Gesture

It is announced that deliveries of chrome from Turkey to Germany and other Axis countries have stopped since April 21. This has been the subject of warm controversy for some months past and only recently Britain and America put in a *vigorous protest* against the continuance of such deliveries.

Reuter's Diplomatic Correspondent comments that the Turkish decision will deprive Germany of at least half of her supplies of this essential alloy for hardening special steel used in armour plate, etc. The sole remaining sources of supplies open to her are the mines of Yugoslavia and Greece, but guerilla activities have made deliveries precarious.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

NEW APPROACH TO INDIAN PROBLEM

"*Indian Independence may be the only* solution to the problem of Allied victory", says the *Cavalcade*, the popular three-penny weekly, in a powerful plea for the settlement of the Indian question.

Declaring that the proved fighting qualities of Indian soldiers have exploded the argument that a free India would be incapable of self-defence and would fail a prey to any aggressor, the article says, that the people now are "indifferent if not hostile".

The immediate military situation as well as long term democratic considerations demand a new approach to the problem, says the paper and suggests the release of *popular leaders as "then it might be* possible to evolve a formula between nations for the recognition of Indian Independence with an inter-Allied Control Commission replacing the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief and consisting of military and civil sections. The Congress, as a majority group, might then be asked to form a Provisional Government which would enter into a treaty with the United Nations".

According to the Cavalcade, Japanese thinking regarding Asia goes deeper than Anglo-American thinking regarding Europe and the Japanese aim is not merely military but mainly political. "Tokyo's war-lords knowing that Japan lacks material resources to conquer India are attempting to raise a social *revolution there*".

Describing Indian conditions, the article says:

There has been disorder ending in blood. Famine has swept Bengal killing hundreds of thousands To make matters worse, the Government of India made special provision for the families of those serving in army or war factories and the civil service It is doubtful whether the British people understand the passionate nature of the Indian Independence demand or the harm that is being done to the British people's cause by the continued imprisonment of such revered leaders as Gandhi and Nehru. It is vain to tell the Indian people that the Allies are fighting for Democracy in Europe and even in Japan which they themselves are denied independence. Arguments based on anti Fascist ideology are interpreted by them in a way damaging to our cause. Descriptions of the evils of Fascism remind them of evils of their own lot.

INDIAN TROOPS' EXPLOITS

Writing of his "personal impressions of the Indian soldier" in the American magazine *Atlantic*, Field Marshal Lord *Wavell says:*

I owe the Indian warrior a debt which I should like to repay with some tribute to his prowess. The Sikhs contribute more soldiers to the army in proportion to their numbers than any other class in India—first class soldiers in every way. The Punjabi Mussalman forms the backbone of many units. The Rajputs are fine fighting men. The Dogras are of magnificent metal of whom any Commanding Officer would take all he could get. The Jats are also first class material The Pathan from British India makes a good soldier.

Lord Wavell pays a tribute to the exploits of the Fourth and Fifth Indian Divisions in Africa. Alluding to the conduct of Indian troops in Malaya and Burma, Lord Wavell writes:

I saw the Indian soldier in disaster and retreat. My impression of him was this: He was often bewildered and at a loss in strange and alarming conditions for which his training provided no solution But he did not lose his discipline or soldierly bearing and seldom broke into panic. On many occasions he has put up a magnificent fight against heavy odds.

About the first Arakan campaign, Lord Wavell writes:

Circumstances compelled me to commit troops with little or no training in jungle craft to some of the most difficult country that could be imagined and to a long and strenuous line of communications in the hope that if all went well we might catch the enemy off the guard and gain by land a strategical objective which would have been more easily reached, had shipping resources been available. At one moment we were probably not far from success. That these inexperienced troops were *eventually outmanoeuvred by a seasoned* Japanese division with the advantage of better communications, and that they became somewhat disheartened in the process cannot be held to discredit the Indian army. I set a small party of it to a task beyond their training and capacity. The main responsibility for the failure is mine. But when the effect on the other side becomes known, it will certainly not be found wholly to *our disadvantage*

I am certain that when the time comes for a real sustained counter-offensive against Japan, the Indian soldier will not be found wanting.

The article was written before Lord Wavell became Viceroy.

EUROPEANS IN INDIAN LEGISLATURES

Dr. H. C. Mookerjee, writing in the *Modern Review* for April, discusses the growing influence of British business in Indian politics. It is not a bad thing to have the benefit of impartial advice from whatever quarter; but from the nature of the case such influence in recent years has tended to be too narrow and communal. Somehow, British business group organised by the European Association has monopolised all representation in the legislatures to the exclusion of the more liberal-minded Europeans from other professions. The result is that British commercial interests and British communal interests have silenced the voice of the more liberal-minded men among journalists or missionaries or men in the educational, legal or medical professions. And these men are clamant that the political progress of 400 millions of Indians shall be dependent on the goodwill of this minority who claim that their rights should be protected in the clearest and most unequivocal manner in case of any transfer of power to the representatives of the people. Says Dr. Mookerjee:

> India will acknowledge the absence of communalism in the wider sense of the term in the European community only when it will give up of its own accord such privileges as are prejudicial to India's economic interests, when it will cease to utilise India as a profitable field for the investment of its capital to the detriment of Indian capital desirous of operating in the same sphere of business and when it will no longer exploit its influence and power to stifle competition from Indian sources. This does not mean that Europeans as individuals or European business will be shut out. What India looks for and demands is equality of opportunity not in the legal or competitive sense but as one would understand it from the standpoint of equity.

Indians maintain that British business has committed a grievous wrong against economic and political India by shutting out the better elements of the European community from making its contribution to our public life.

> The best proof of a departure from its present and, from the Indian point of view, its objectionable attitude would be for it to give up its control of the European Association for its own purposes, to welcome the co-operation of these men and to facilitate their entrance into our legislatures even if this implies the disappearance of its existing, and in Indian eyes, its artificial solidarity.

When Europeans though belonging to the same race and professing the same faith join, some the Right, some the Middle and others the Left in our legislatures, according to their political convictions, it is then and then only that they will be in a position to advise Indians to forget their social and religious affiliations and to organise themselves not into Hindu, Muslim, Sikh and Depressed classes *blocks* but to come together and to form political parties pledged to identical political and economic programmes.

INDIA AND U.S.A.

Writing in *Asia*, Mr. Anup Singh, Research Director of the India League of America, pointing out that there are only about 3,000 native Indians in United States, recalls that Indians were entitled to become citizens until the Supreme Court ruled in 1923 that Hindus are not "white persons."

Mr. Anup Singh emphasises that "depriving India's peoples of the right which they once possessed in United States has weakened Indian goodwill towards Americans—and goodwill among nations is a vital need to-day. . . .

"Thousands of Americans have always been accorded equal rights and privileges in India. The least that America can do is to reciprocate this treatment.

"Indians, like the Chinese, should be put on an annual quota, which would be no more than a mere 75 or 50. It is not a special favour, but only justice that India's peoples ask."

ON THE USE OF TEA

In an article on the Pharmacology of tea, contributed to Mr. W. H. Ukers' encyclopaedic work "All About Tea," Dr. C. R. Harler observes:

"Tea is consumed for its lightness of touch and weight, for its easy digestibility under normal circumstances; for its warmth, yet a warmth which produces a subsequent coolness due to free perspiration when humidity and temperature are high; for its piquant palatability and aroma; and chiefly for its stimulation of the nervous and muscular system which induces a consciousness midway between gentle excitement and easy repose."

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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April 1. Major-General Wingate is killed in an aeroplane crash.

—The Governor General gives assent to Finance Bill and the Bill becomes law.

April 2. Allied attack on Admiralty Isles: nearly 100,000 Japs are blockaded.

—Russians cross the Pruth and enter the heart of Rumania.

April 3. New Air Base in Ulster.

—Mongolia charges China *re* violation of Frontier.

April 4. Government of India decides not to increase railway fares.

April 5. H. E. Commander-in Chief visits Madras and inspects all army units in the city.

—Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit opens the Swadeshi Exhibition organised by the All-India Women's Conference at Bombay.

April 6 Lord Catto is appointed Governor of the Bank of England.

—Mr. Wendell Willkie announces his withdrawal from the presidential election.

April 7. Japs raid Assam area.

—17th session of All India Women's Conference meets at Bombay Kamaladevi presides.

April 8. Non Party Conference meets in Lucknow· Sir T. B Sapru presides.

—U.S. Planes raid Poland.

April 9. Japs take Tame in North Burma and penetrate into Kohima.

—Nazis execute Italian Generals.

April 10. Sir Feroz Khan Noon arrives in London.

—Russians capture Odessa.

April 11. Japs abandon Gasmata and Cape Hoskins in New Britain.

—Sir G. Laithwaite is appointed permanent Under-Secretary to British Cabinet.

April 12. U.S. pays compensation of one million dollars for bombing of Swiss town.

April 13. Postal censorship is imposed.

—Nazi debacle in Crimea and bid for control of Black Sea.

April 14. Commons debate on India *re.* continuance of Section 93 rule.

—Japs near Silchar, in Assam.

April 15. Big fire explosion in Bombay Harbour and several deaths reported.

April 16. Gandhiji suffers from an attack of malaria, says the Bombay Government.

—S. E. Asia command is shifted to Ceylon.

April 17. Publication of Bombay *Sentinel* is prohibited by the Government.

—Jap Government and the Kellog Pact-secret documents published.

April 18. Mr. Amery attacks Congress and repeats charges of sabotage in the House of Commons debate on India.

—Russians take Balaclava.

April 19. C. Vijayaraghavachariar of Salem, ex President of the Congress, is dead.

—Thousand Plane raid on France.

April 20. Turkey stops chrome exports to Germany.

April 21. Pre censorship oder on *Hindusthan Times* and *National Call* is withdrawn.

April 22. Soviet Finnish Talks fail.

—Another 2,000 Bomber raid on Europe.

April 23. Viceroy inspects scene of disaster *re.* Bombay explosion.

—Severe fighting in Bishanpur area.

April 24. Landings in Dutch New Guinea by the Allies.

April 25. Hitler-Mussolini meeting.

—Jap offensive in Honan.

April 26. Capt. Sardar Hyat Khan, Minister to the Punjab Government, is dismissed.

—Sir F K. Noon and Maharaja of Kashmir are appointed to represent India at the meeting of Dominion Prime Ministers.

April 27. Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, Dewan of Baroda, resigns.

—Government of India orders an inquiry into Bombay explosion.

—Mr. Jinnah fails to form League Ministry in Punjab; correspondence released between him and Prime Minister.

—Allies occupy Madang in New Guinea.

April 28. Col. Frank Knox, U. S. A. Secretary of Navy, is dead.

—Bombay Government announces that Gandhiji's health causes anxiety.

April 29. Mr. A. P. Wadsworth is appointed Editor of the *Manchester Guardian.*

—U. S. A. heavy bombers raid Berlin in day-light.

April 30. Mahatma Gandhi's health is reported to be improving.

—Japs capture Chengchow in Northern Honan (China).

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

Addressing a group of journalists at Nagpur, Nawab Mohidin Nawaz Jung, Political Secretary, Hyderabad Government, gave certain facts in order to dispel what he described as popular misconceptions about the administration of Hyderabad State. General criticism against Hyderabad, he said, was that the State was medieval and steeped in conservatism. The Nawab said this criticism was due to utter ignorance of conditions in the State and explained that Hyderabad never desired to be in complete isolation and that it always tried to move with the times. It might be that the State did not always follow the beaten track, but they had certainly broken new ground in certain spheres. As regards separation of the judiciary and the executive, Hyderabad had certainly taken the lead and with the exception of certain special powers to meet emergency, revenue officials were confined only to revenue work and the judiciary was under the control of the High Court.

Referring to the constitutional scheme drafted for Hyderabad, the Nawab said that there could be no rigidity about the nature of the constitution and so long as there was an effective machinery for ascertaining and consulting public opinion, the actual form of the constitution could be left to be decided by the needs of the situation. Joint electorates and functional representation, which are the main features of the new constitution, the Nawab said, were conceived in the best interests of the people of the State.

Answering questions, the Nawab said that equal representation for Muslims, who formed a small minority in the State compared to Hindus, was intended to harmonise relations between the communities and as this representation was recommended by a statutory committee, which consisted of members of both communities, it would be difficult to say whether it would be modified to meet certain criticisms from some quarters.

Travancore

THE DEWAN ON LAW OF NATIONS

Some of the difficult problems which would confront builders of the post-war world and the great part which international law and public opinion should play in evolving a just and equitable order were described by Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan, presiding at a lecture delivered by Professor K. R. R. Sastri.

After touching briefly on the genesis of international law, the President passed on to the League of Nations at which he represented India in 1926 and 1927. Every one knew how the League had failed over the problems of Danzig and Manchuria. It had worked satisfactorily in less important fields like irrigation, water rights and humanitarian effort but where it involved the surrender of sovereignty of power or jurisdiction, it had failed. "If there is no real and effective international law coming into the world after the great struggle that is taking place to-day, the world of to-morrow will be a sorry affair indeed. The real condition precedent to the creation of international law was that nations should agree to a dual sovereignty; in other words, in addition to national sovereignty, there must be super-international sovereignty."

Proceeding, the Dewan stressed that all these had taught us that there could be no two or more separate or independent sovereignties in India, that there could not be two organisations or entities subject to no superior control, call it democracy, oligarchy, or benevolent autocracy. There must be some central focus, influence and force, some central organisation which could bring about harmony. The same applied to the world at large and as between the so-called sovereign States.

MR. H. C. PAPWORTH

A press note says that His Highness the Chancellor has been pleased to appoint Mr. H. C. Papworth as acting Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Travancore in place of Rajyasevapravina Dr. C. V. Chandrasekharan who has proceeded on leave preparatory to retirement.

Sanjeli

THAKOR SAHEB OF SANJELI

A durbar was held recently under the orders of Lieut.-Col. His Highness Maharawal Shri Sir Ranjitsinhji Mansinhji, K.C.S.I., Raja of Baria State, to install Thakor Narendrasinhji on the *gadi* of Sanjeli State, and invest him with dynastic powers. Before performing the ceremony, the durbar representative complimented the Thakor Saheb on his excellent education and training for the onerous responsibilities which he had to bear from that day. The Raja of Baria's representative suggested that for the uplift and prosperity of the population of Sanjeli State, which was principally agricultural, the Thakor Saheb should generously grant them occupancy rights and the settlement of revenue assessment on approved lines. He concluded by conveying His Highness's best wishes to the young Ruler and wishing him health, happiness and a prosperous rule.

The Thakor Saheb was then installed on the *gadi* and the Durbar *kharita* and seal and keys of Sanjeli State were handed over to him.

Kashmir

JAMMU DISTURBANCES

Dismissal of an Assistant Superintendent of Police and a Head Constable, severe censure of a District Magistrate and a Senior Superintendent of Police and the expression of displeasure "at the combination of miscalculation and apathy displayed by the former Revenue Minister in the matter" are the important features of the orders passed by the Maharaja on the report of the Enquiry Committee appointed by him to enquire into the Jammu disturbances and firing of September last.

The Maharaja has sanctioned compensation to the extent of Rs. 36,015 for the injured and dependents of the dead.

His Highness has ordered that any leave salary due to the former Revenue Minister be forfeited.

MAHARAJA'S GIFT TO I.A.F.

Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir has offered to the Viceroy half a squadron of fighter aircraft, 8 in number, at a cost of £40,000 for the defence of India.

MAHARAJA OF KASHMIR

A *communique* says:—Lieutenant-General His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., K.C.V.O., has accepted the invitation of His Excellency the Viceroy to attend the War Cabinet as a representative of India with Hon. Sir Firoz Khan Noon, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E.

KASHMIR CABINET

The Maharaja of Kashmir, who has left for England, has appointed a Cabinet, consisting of Her Highness the Maharani, Major-General Thakur Janka Singh and Sir B. N. Rau, the Premier, which will, subject to certain reservations, deal with all matters pertaining to administrative matters.

Bhopal

BHOPAL RULER'S PLEA

A plea that Indian States should be left to follow their own ways of reaching as early as possible, their goal which should be to secure for their subjects opportunities for a fuller life and ensure their prosperity and happiness, was made by His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal, addressing a distinguished gathering at Bhopal.

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INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

THE PEGGING ACT

An important decision affecting the Indian Pegging Act has been taken as the result of discussions between the Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior.

The following official statement was issued by Mr. Clarkson, Minister of the Interior, on 18th April. "The Prime Minister, General Smuts, and the Minister of the Interior met the Administrator of Natal, Mr. G. Heaton Nicholls, Mr. D. E. Mitchell, N.P.C., Senator D. G. Shepstone and the following representatives of the Natal Indian Congress, Messrs. A. I. Kajee, P. R Pather, S. R. Naidoo, A. B. Moosa, T. N. Bhoola, Mahomed Ebrahim and S. M. Paruk, in connection with matters arising out of the application of the Pegging Act in Natal. Discussions took place as the result of representations made by Indian Congress to find an alternative method of controlling occupation of dwellings in towns and boroughs in Natal to that adopted under the Act mentioned. It was agreed that the situation would best be met by the introduction of an Ordinance into the Natal Provincial Council. This Ordinance would provide for the creation of a Board consisting of two Europeans and two Indian members under the chairmanship of a third European who would be a man with legal training. The object of the legislation would be to create a machinery for a Board to control occupation by the licensing of dwellings in certain areas. the application of the Pegging Act in Durban to be withdrawn by proclamation on the passing of this Ordinance.

Ceylon

INDO CEYLON RELATIONS

Mr. M. S. Aney, Representative of the Government of India in Ceylon, in an interview to the *Hindu*, said:

"I very much wish a serious effort is made by public men in India to establish better contact with public men in Ceylon who are greatly interested in Ceylon-Indian problems. I believe it will be a distinct advantage to both the countries if there is mutual consultation and agreed policy in respect of such large questions as extension of adult franchise for Indians."

East Africa

NEW IMMIGRATION RULES

The Indian community throughout East Africa is much perturbed by the recently introduced regulations for tightening up the entry of non-natives in war-time. These regulations which were originally introduced in Tanganyika now apply to all East Africa on the grounds that food shortage and housing difficulties made the control essential.

A special conference of East African Indians has called on the Governments to repeal the regulations forthwith and has decided to send a delegation to India to explain their viewpoint and grievances regarding the status and conditions of the Indian communities in East Africa. It is also proposed to open an agency in London for the purpose of educating British opinion on the subject.

U.S.A.

CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS FOR INDIANS

The *Baltimore Sun* in a leader advocates favourable action by the American Congress on the recent resolution passed by the Council of State which urged that steps be taken to obtain rights of citizenship for Indian nationals living in the U.S.

The *Sun* says: The resolution should serve as a reminder to our Congressmen that on the subject of citizenship for Oriental peoples, it has some unfinished business. All the old bogies of the influx of cheap labour and the rush to our shores of great numbers of perhaps undesirable Orientals have long since been laid. The total of East Indians now in the U S is estimated at about 2,500 The number that will be admitted annually under the quota system is not more than 75.

The passage of such legislation would constitute a genuine gesture of friendship to a gallant Ally.

The *Sun* emphasises India's notable contribution in manpower to the Allied cause, and adds: "But more important that any such immediate consideration is the principle at issue."

As long as Indians are excluded from the U.S. as immigrants and potential citizens, we are maintaining special discriminations which are hardly consistent with such lofty professions as those contained in the Atlantic Charter.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS ✱ DEPARTMENTAL ✱ NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

NON-PARTY CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

The Non-Party Conference meeting at Lucknow adopted the following resolutions:

Having regard to the extreme and general dissatisfaction which prevails in the country, this Conference is firmly of the view that it is necessary in the vital interests of almost 200 million people that the Legislatures should be restored in the five Provinces of Madras, Bombay, the United Provinces, Bihar and the Central Provinces in which they have been suspended for 4½ years and that in such Provinces, official advisers should be replaced by coalitions or as far as possible other representative Ministries.

This Conference demands that the Governor-General's Executive Council should be reconstructed without delay as a truly National Government with a Prime Minister at its head consisting entirely of non-officials enjoying public confidence and in charge of all portfolios subject to responsibility to the Crown during the period of the war and in regard to defence without prejudice to the position of the Commander-in-Chief as the executive head of the defence forces.

This Conference demands that with a view to creating a proper atmosphere in the country, Mahatma Gandhi and other leaders should be released forthwith. Their detention is justified neither on the ground of justice nor for reasons of State. Opportunity should be given to them as free men to review the whole situation and thus help in bringing about a settlement of outstanding issues between the Hindus and Muslims and England and India.

DEADLOCK IN GUJARAT MUNICIPALITIES

The Surat Municipal Council, at its meeting on April 18, passed a resolution stating that they would cease to function forthwith as they

feel that no local self-Government institution can discharge its normal functions in the true interests of the people with independence and self-respect as steps have not been taken to negotiate with Mr. Gandhi and other leaders of public opinion to create the necessary political atmosphere.

The resolution was moved by the Congress Party as special business and passed by 81 votes to 9. Six members were absent and one remained neutral.

The Ahmedabad Municipal Council also passed a resolution in similar terms by 52 votes to 12, after a heated discussion lasting for nearly three hours.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

SIR B. L. MITTER ON INDIAN CONSTITUTION

Sir Brojendra Lal Mitter, Advocate-General of India, lectured on "The legislative power under the present Constitution" to law students of the Benares Hindu University. He said that the executive, the judiciary and the legislature, independent of each other, made a federal system of Government perfect. But in India this principle had not been strictly followed, in that the executive was overlapping the legislature.

Sir Brojendra added that one concept of Federalism, which connoted independence of the three branches of the Government of one another, did not obtain in the Indian Constitution.

"Here the executive head is also a law-maker. With regard to the position of the legislature, the Constitution of 1935 has imposed restrictions which were not present in the old Constitution. The restriction may be classified under two heads: First the necessity of the Governor-General's previous sanction for initiating legislation of certain categories. Secondly, the positive restrictions with regard to specific matters and against discrimination. The restrictions on the head of discrimination are justified on the ground of reciprocity between India and the United Kingdom." Reciprocity could not work fairly when the parties were not equals.

DR. SAPRU'S PLEA FOR SETTLEMENT

Presiding over the third session of the Non-Party Conference at Lucknow on April 7, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru observed:

The question which now arises is whether the present position can be perpetuated indefinitely and people allowed to brood over the situation for a much longer time and whether it is wise or expedient to allow the sense of frustration to dominate men's minds still longer? That there is deep resentment and a keen sense of frustration at large I have not the least doubt. That it is unwise in the larger and abiding interest of India and England to allow the present state of things to continue in the provinces any longer I am equally clear. It is absurd to mortgage the future of this country by planning post-war reconstruction and development schemes without giving the duly elected legislatures a fair and free chance of expressing themselves on the expediency or desirability or feasibility of these plans howsoever well-meant they may be.

DETENTION OF GANDHIJI

One hundred and fifteen persons detained by or at the instance of the Central Government or under the orders of Chief Commissioners had been told the grounds for their detention as required by Ordinance III of 1944, said Sir John Thorne in reply to Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, at question-time in the last session of the Assembly.

Q Were similar notices served on *members* of the *Congress Working* Committee and on Mahatma Gandhi?

A Yes.

Many of the representations were still under consideration and none of the security prisoners to whom his answer referred had been released so far, added Sir John.

Mr. Krishnamachari What is the reply given by Mahatma Gandhi?

Sir John I regret I am not prepared to enter into details of that kind.

Sardar Mangal Singh Will the Hon. Member give the contents of the notice served on Mahatma Gandhi?

Sir John No.

COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE AND INDIA

The Commonwealth Conference, which met last month in London, passed a resolution reaffirming its belief that Mr. Gandhi's immediate release would be a demonstration of the British Government's goodwill.

The resolution also appealed to Indian party leaders to come to terms with each *other, to present an agreed constitution* for India, with the request that it should be implemented without delay in accordance with the declarations made by responsible members of the *present British Government.*

During the discussion on the resolution, Col. H. J. Jarret-Kerr who has been in the *Indian Army for* 25 years and now lives at Cheltenham, declared: "The Indian people are shrewd. A lot of damn nonsense is talked about their inability to *run their own affairs*".

BASIC EDUCATION

"Every Province and State *in India* which started the experiment of Basic Education, has continued it all these five years, with the solitary exception of Orissa where when the Government dropped the experiment, the people took it up. The experiment has so far been *most successful in the Bihar Province* and in the Kashmir State", stated Mr. Aryanayakam, General Secretary of the All India Basic Education Board, summarising the lengthy annual report he presented at the fifth annual meeting of the Board which met in Sevagram, Wardha, recently under the presidentship of Dr. Zakir Hussain, the Chairman of the Board.

The General Secretary's summary of the report showed that there are 120 Basic Schools in Kashmir, 27 in Bihar, 52 in Bombay, 59 in C.P. and over 4,000 in U.P. *The C.P. and U.P. Schools, though not cent.* per cent. Basic Schools, had fully adopted the syllabus of the Basic Education Committee. These were all Government Schools. Besides these, there were the non-official Basic Education Schools in Sevagram, in the Jamia Millia, Delhi, in Saswad, Poona, in Meerut and in Rasulia, Hoshangabad.

WORLD CO-OPERATIVE SCHOOL

A School of International Co-operation has been set up in New York City by the Co-operative League of the United States to train persons for post-war leadership in the co operative movement in the U.S. and abroad.

The curriculum *includes courses on the* history of co-operation, its meaning, principles and methods of international co operative commerce, techniques of *post-war reconstruction, economic* geography, international cultural relations, co operative organization, distribution and marketing, and international democracy.

Students from all nations may attend the school, if they have the proper educational background and show aptitude *for the purposes of the training programme.*

Mr. I. M. LAL, I.C.S.

The order removing Mr. I. M. Lal, District and Sessions Judge, Punjab, from the Indian Civil Service was declared wrongful, void, illegal and imperative by a Division Bench of the Lahore High Court, consisting of Mr. Justice Abdul Rashid and Mr. Justice Diwan Ramlal. Their Lordships, accordingly, granted a decree and also certified that it was a fit case for appeal to the Federal Court.

Mr. Lal was removed from the Indian Civil Service following an inquiry held by Mr. Brayne, Commissioner, into his conduct. Mr. Lal instituted a suit against the Secretary of State for India for a declaration that the order removing him from the Indian Civil Service by the defendant was wrongful, illegal and *ultra vires* and that, notwithstanding the order, the plaintiff was still a member of the Indian Civil Service and entitled to hold office as such and to enjoy all other rights and privileges as a member of this service.

WORKING OF DEFENCE RULES

"It seems to me that these Defence of India Rules have paralysed us and we have got no power," observed the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court, recalling the case of Pandit Baij Nath of the Agra Bar who had been detained under Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules and on whose behalf an application was filed earlier before a Full Bench of the Allahabad High Court. His Lordship made the remark when an application made in the nature of *habeas corpus* was moved before him on behalf of Mr. Vishambar Dayal Tripathi, Congress M.L.A., now a security prisoner detained in Farukhabad Jail under Rule 26 of the Defence of India Rules.

PRESS LAW IN ASSAM

The order of the Government of Assam requiring the Editor and Publisher of the *Sylhet Chronicle* to deposit a sum of Rs. 1,000 as security under the Press (Emergency Powers) Act has been set aside by a special bench of the Calcutta High Court.

LIFE ASSURANCE AND INFLATION

Important and material aid is being rendered by the institution of Life Assurance in the great fight against inflation. This statement was made by Arthur B. Wood, President and Managing Director of the Sun Life of Canada, in a review of the Company's 73rd Annual Report to policyholders.

All surplus income spent in life assurance, said Mr. Wood, serves as an important factor in reducing unwise spending power and preventing prices from rising. At the same time, policyholders are building up an invaluable fund for future use when it may be greatly needed.

Mr. Wood, in the course of his remarks, stated that payments to policyholders during the year exceeded $74,000,000, including ten million dollars in respect of dividends on participating policies. $629,000,000 has been paid to Sun Life policyholders and beneficiaries since organization. During 1943 over 60,000 Life assurance policies and annuities were added to the books and assurances in force now stand at $3,173,000,000. The distribution of the business in force is as follows: British Commonwealth 52 per cent; United States 42 per cent; other countries 6 per cent. New life assurance policies issued during the year amounted to $214,000,000.

INSURANCE ACT AMENDMENTS

The Insurance Act, 1938, is being amended with the object of disqualifying policyholders, who are employees or agents of an insurance company, from being policyholders' directors. This is done by amending Section 48 (2) of the Act under which employees and agents of insurance companies are at present eligible for appointment as policyholders' directors. This is considered destructive of the object of Section 48 since a policyholder, who is an employee or agent of an insurance company, cannot be expected to safeguard the interests of policyholders where these interests conflict with [illegible] of the shareholders.

PAPER FOR CIVIL CONSUMPTION

The Government of India had recently come to the conclusion that still further steps should be taken with regard to price control and distribution of paper, said the Chairman of the Indian Paper-makers' Association, Mr. R W. Mellor, presiding over the annual general meeting of the Association on 17th April.

Mr. Mellor referred to difficulties in obtaining sufficient supplies of coal and raw materials as well as to transport difficulties which, among other causes, had compelled certain paper mills to reduce their output and some to suspend manufacture. It was now generally admitted that paper was a munition of war as essential as steel. He urged the Government to reconsider the position of the industry and to restore immediately the full coal quota to paper mills so that there would not only be full supply of paper to Government and the army but that the "pitifully inadequate" allocation of paper for the civil demand would not further be reduced.

AMERICAN PLANS TO TRADE IN INDIA

A letter from Bombay sent by an English man to *Great Britain and the East* says

"American manufacturers realising the potentialities of this market propose to exploit it vigorously as soon as conditions and shipping permit. Their plans are being perfected by executives specially sent out from America. These men touring the country are carrying out investigations that will take four to six months to complete."

The journal adds: "Our correspondent makes no complaint of this American activity. The Indian market is open to all on the same terms. The moral he draws is that some organisation should point out to British manufacturers the importance of becoming actively engaged in laying their plans so that they can start operations as soon as conditions permit".

LEGAL RIGHTS OF WOMEN

Speaking on the legal rights of women at the All India Women's Conference at Bombay, Mr. M. C. Setalvad, a former Advocate General of Bombay, said that Indian women's demand for a more liberal law is a natural reaction of the new spirit dominating the country. He said:

Hindu Law had been undergoing a gradual change, and the right of inheritance for Hindu women was one of its phases. The Bill regarding this question, now before the Central Legislature, provided for a share for the daughter in her father's property. This would put her in the same position as the Christian or Parsi daughter, and this was indeed a big stride forward.

Dealing with the question of women's property, Mr. Setalvad observed that justice demanded that whatever property a woman inherited or possessed, she should be entitled to use it according to her own free will, and no legal barriers could be tolerated in this sphere.

Speaking on marriage, he emphasised that monogamy was almost a necessary corollary of a fully developed and advanced state of society. Happily, the Marriage Bill now before the Central Assembly had monogamy as its criterion.

MRS. KAMALADEVI ON INDIA'S FREEDOM

In the course of her presidential address to the All-India Women's Conference at Bombay, Mrs. Kamaladevi observed:

To-day, we witness the fantastic spectacle of big world powers claiming to fight for the larger freedom and greater happiness of mankind, feeling no sense of shame or humiliation in denying those very principles to millions of the people they still continue to exploit It is not idle curiosity or cheap sentiment which shapes the question that haunts and harasses every diplomat like a family ghost: "What about India"? We may well say, Everything, for, while England continues to hold India in political and economic bondage, the United Nations do nothing short of perpetrating a colossal lie on humanity."

India is more than a test; it is a symbol. It is the mirror in which the world sees the shape of things to be. It is for a world which recognises the right of every nation to determine and rule its own destiny but in a co-operative world order that the women of India and of the world have to strive, if humanity is ever to enjoy decency, peace and happiness and if world wars are to be banished from amongst our seasonal pests.

PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE

The Fourth All India Pharmaceutical Conference was inaugurated in Calcutta by Mr. G. L. Mehta who, in the course of his address, urged the need for development of a basic chemical industry in the country. He emphasised the vital part that the industry played in the development of a healthy and expanding pharmaceutical industry.

Mr. Mehta also dwelt on the lack of co ordinated growth of the pharmaceutical industry, as a result of which certain drugs were not produced in the country, while in certain others, there was over-production.

Mr. Mehta urged the need for adequate research and proper organisation of the industry in respect of standardisation, publicity and marketing. He pointed out that pharmaceutists were an essential link between chemical manufacturers and the public and said that it was in so far as the industry subserved public needs and interest and realised its wider social obligations it could win public confidence and support

NO PIPS IN APPENDICITIS

About appendicitis, one of the commonest of human ills, the strangest notions exist. Most mothers warn their children that eating apple or orange pips will inevitably cause it. Bits of lead pencil, pins and cherry stones are likewise held up as certain to bring it on.

There is a grain of truth in these beliefs; doctors admit that obstructions wedged in this worm-like attachment to the colon may be the starting point of trouble, but Dr. C. Dennis, of Minneapolis University, has a different theory.

Dr. Dennis is convinced that the cause of appendicitis can be muscular or functional, as well as the result of organic trouble.

MEDICAL AID FOR INDIA

A meeting of the India Relief Committee in London held to discuss means of sending medical aid to India, decided to form a Medical Advisory Committee. Lord Horder was appointed the Chairman. Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, Chairman of the Relief Committee, said that quinine and vitamins for children were specially needed. Lord Horder warmly supported the case for medical relief, observing that one of the most distressing factors was the serious lack of ordinary remedies in India.

HEALTH SURVEY COMMITTEE

The Health Survey and Development Committee, presided over by Sir Joseph Bhore, has reached a stage in its work when preliminaries, such as the issue of questionnaires, have been completed and members are about to undertake a tour of the country to make local inspections and take evidence in the provinces.

Among ideas that have been considered by the Committee is a tour of other countries. "It is obvious," said Sir Joseph in a talk to press correspondents, "that we cannot make any recommendation out of relation to developments which have taken place elsewhere.

A number of *ad hoc* committees had been formed, some of which had made progress with their work. These sub-committees were composed of experts in their own subjects who came from all parts of India to give the Committee the benefit of their knowledge and advice.

The Committee was now breaking up into four groups for the purpose of touring. One group would tour in Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and the Central Provinces. A second would go to Madras and later visit Mysore and Hyderabad States. A third would now visit Bombay, Sind, Punjab, the North-West Frontier Provinces and later the United Provinces and Delhi Province. The fourth, which would investigate the question of industrial health, would see as many industrial centres as possible throughout the country.

MADRAS MALARIA CONTROL

A three-year plan for province-wide anti-malaria investigation and control has been sanctioned by the Government of Madras. The scheme, which may be extended for a further period, is estimated to cost Rs 15,00 000 a year for the central and region units alone, exclusive of the measures at present undertaken in certain tracts, particularly in Vizagapatam and Wyanad, in Malabar. The investigation is expected to be completed in three years, to be followed by stringent control measures during the extended period.

SALE OF GOLD

In the Central Assembly, Mr. Avanashilingam Chettiar referred to the sale of gold and declared that as against the ruling price in America of about Rs. 45 an ounce, gold was sold in India at Rs. 85.

The Finance Member intervening, pointed out that the price in India had been Rs. 71 for some time.

Mr. Chettiar accepted the correction, and said that, even so, it did not affect his charge that the machinery of the Reserve Bank of India had been used for a transaction in which there was a profit made of some Rs. 30 on every ounce of gold in this country, with the result that vast sums were going out.

Mr. Chettiar reasserted his belief that many crores of Indian money had gone out in this way. Every article supplied from India to the British and the American Governments had been at controlled prices. How, in those circumstances, could the Finance Member argue in support of the sale of American gold here at prices so much higher than those ruling in America.

STERLING BALANCES

Speaking of the sterling balances, he objected to these being allowed to accumulate in one country, and wanted that they should be divided into sterling and dollar. He suggested that the sterling balances should be spent:

(1) In training Indian technical personnel in England and America in as large numbers as possible;

(2) in importing such consumer goods as could not be manufactured in India, for example, watches, and such goods as would not compete with Indian products; and

(3) in importing capital goods.

NEW GOVERNOR OF BANK OF ENGLAND

Lord Catto's appointment as Governor of the Bank of England, in succession to Mr. Montague Norman, will cause widespread interest in India where he spent twelve years as head of the great Yule interests. He was in fact the immediate successor of the late Sir David Yule.

ALL-INDIA UNION OF RAILWAYMEN

At a railwaymen's conference in Delhi sponsored by the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association, it was decided to establish an All-India Railwaymen's Union.

Opening the conference, Mr. Frank R. Anthony, President-in-Chief of the A.-I. and D.E. Association, said:

I find that railwaymen particularly have no security of service to-day. Unlike members of other Government Departments, they are liable to removal or dismissal without any inquiry or trial. This, to my mind, is an intolerable state of affairs. But the only way in which railwaymen can secure necessary redress is through an organised body, which will be able to wield the necessary influence on the Government and I believe that there is real need for such a union in this country.

The Anglo-Indian community still occupies a preponderant position on the railways. I do not want to make this a communal organisation. It cannot be. It must be non-communal. But through the good offices of Anglo-Indian railway employees, and through fellow-Indian co-operators, we can, and should build this Union up into the most powerful organisation of its kind in India. I have received offers and promises of support from railwaymen in every railway in this country. We have 25,000 Anglo-Indians on the railways. If you enlist the co operation and the good offices of your fellow railway employees, I believe we can make this All-India Railwaymen's Union an organisation which the Government will not be able to ignore. It is vital in your own interests to start such an organisation and to keep it going.

The Conference adopted the following resolution: "That an All-India Railwaymen's Union be established and registered under the Trade Union Act".

RAILWAY FARES

As was anticipated, Government has announced its decision to drop the proposal to increase railway fares.

Behind the decision lies, according to lobby talks, "the greatest struggle which the Indian Members of the Viceroy's Council are reported to have had with their colleagues. The Indian Members have won not by votes but by arguments".

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta revealed in the Assembly, the increase in fares was decided with the casting vote of the Viceroy, with the Commander-in-Chief voting against the proposal.

The pressure of public opinion, as voiced in the Assembly and in the Press, has prevailed.

ALLIED SERVICES ART EXHIBITION

H. E. Lady Wavell opened the Allied Services Art Exhibition at the Imperial Hotel, New Delhi, on April 14. The exhibits, she said, came from all over India and she was glad that the American Allies contributed to the Exhibition with works of high quality. It was a similar Exhibition held in Britain after the last World War which brought to notice talents of several young artists who later won fame. It was a good thing that young men could turn to the solace of beautiful things in the midst of the grimness of war.

Pictures exhibited include pencil and water colour sketches done by unknown front-line servicemen during brief spells between battles, and hurriedly sent on in envelopes and odd bits of cardboard. Two well-known American water-colour artists, have submitted their work, War Correspondent Milford Sheats has sent studies done in different war theatres, and Sgt. Milford Zomes has portrayed life on the Assam front. English Portrait Painter, Lt. Col. Simon Elwes, Official War Artist now in India, is showing his portraits of Indian heroes in the forces. Among them is a group picture of the widow, father and son of Company Havildar Major Chelu Ram, Posthumous V. C. from the 6th Rajputana Rifles.

CHINESE PAINTINGS

Dr. Wellington Koo, the Chinese Ambassador, opening an exhibition of contemporary Chinese paintings at the Royal Water Colour Society galleries in London, said, "China and Great Britain as allies in war and partners in the work of peace-building later on, both have an ardent desire to know each other better to the end that their collaboration may prove fruitful not only to themselves but to humanity in general. One of the best ways to attain close understanding between peoples is to promote cultural relations."

Sixty paintings which have recently reached Britain from China are on view at the exhibition, which was presented by the British Council at the request of the Ministry of Information.

GUNGA'S DEATH

The world of sport has lost a great champion in the death of Gunga who was recently killed in a bus accident while he was on his way to Lahore. Reporting his death, a West India contemporary gives the following account of the great wrestler:

Gunga was born 43 years ago in the village of Ugoki (Sialkot). He was a dyed in the-wool wrestler, for his grandfather, Bali, was a great wrestler of his time. His father, Gamu Baliwala, too, was a wrestler of exceptional merit and he offered stubborn resistance to the great Ghulam when the latter was in his prime. Gunga began to take part in open tournaments when he was between 16 and 18 years of age. His first opponent of note was young Gama whom he defeated easily. Gunga beat him again in two subsequent bouts. Others he met and defeated at this were Gutta Singh, Haider, Gama 'yekka' and Kalia of Jalalpore. Perhaps the greatest battles of his life were with Imam Bux, brother of the great Gama. They met four times and in the first encounter Gunga beat Imam within 20 minutes, the second match went to Imam after a memorable fight of 55 minutes; the third was of questionable result but the verdict was given to Imam and the fourth Gunga lost.

Other interesting facts about Gunga are: (1) His real name is Firozudin, his nickname Gunga is but the Indian term for a mute; (2) Gunga lost powers of speech and hearing through an attack of plague while a child of four or five, (3) for exercise, Gunga would perform at least, 2,000 dunds [dips] and 2,000 baithaks (squats) at a time. Gunga's bodily measurements, as taken by Mr S Mazumdar, the Editor of *Athletic East*, some years ago were; Height 5 ft 11½ in.; Neck 18 in., Chest (normal) 49¼ in.; Upper arm 16½ in., Forearm 13¼ in.; Wrist 7⅞ in., Thighs 27⅛ in; Calf 16 in."

RANJI TROPHY FINAL

The Western India States Cricket Association won the Ranji Trophy cricket final beating Bengal, recently, by an innings and 23 runs. This is the first time that this Association has won this Championship. Holders of the trophy, it may be recalled, were eliminated in the first round by Bombay who, in turn, lost to the champions in the semi-final.

JOE LOUIS IN ENGLAND

Joe Louis, world heavyweight champion, is now in England. Louis is giving a series of exhibitions at various camps in Britain, but a fight with any British boxer is considered most improbable.

INDIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

The Easter Session of the Indian Academy of Sciences opened its three days' session at the University Buildings, Madras, with a discussion on "Luminiscence".

Sir C. V. Raman led the discussion with a talk on the "Luminiscence of Solids". He laid emphasis on the phenomena connected with the diamond, based upon his more recent work at Bangalore, which has given a new interpretation of different types of diamonds and their physical properties arising out of crystal formation.

Sir C. V. Raman subsequently addressed the gathering on "Coronae, Haloes and Glories". He said that these highly attractive and natural phenomena of the sky were the results of the existence of water vapour under various conditions. As was well known, the air contains dust and water vapour besides gases.

The most puzzling of natural phenomena occurring every day is the existence of water in the sky as cloud and its slowly coming down as rain. The cloud that is seen consists either of fine drops of water hanging in the air or of crystals of ice; the former gives rise to the coronae and the latter the haloes.

DISCOVERY OF NEW PHENOMENON

Dr. L. D. Mahajan, in charge of the Physics Research Laboratory, Mahendra College, Patiala, has discovered a new phenomenon called "Humid Fatigue" in hygrometers.

While finding the time lag of Mahajan's optical hygrometer, it is observed that this hygrometer, when treated for a number of times with moist and dry currents of air alternatively has less time lag than otherwise. The hygrometer, which has been so treated, comes to rest and gives a constant value in a shorter time than otherwise. Thus the time lag of the hygrometer depends upon its immediate past history, besides other factors.

The effect of the immediate past history is found in other types of hygrometers also. This phenomenon may be called the "Humid Fatigue" of hygrometers.

FILM ON LIFE OF BUDDHA

Mr. Bhadrakumar Yajnik, Chief Publicity Officer of Prakash Pictures, who has returned from Ceylon, says in a statement on behalf of the Prakash Pictures of Bombay, as follows:—We are informed that the State Council of Ceylon has passed a motion requesting the Board of Ministry of Ceylon to take steps with the Government of India for the prohibition of the preparation of "Life of Lord Buddha" as it is liable to wound the religious feelings of Buddhists all over the world.

Messrs. Prakash Pictures are in possession of documents supporting their film from Buddhist leaders of different countries of the world including Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, the President of the Maha Bodhi Society of India, Dr. Pao, Consul-General of China, Rev. K. Mahamanna, the Buddhist leader of Nepal, Nagwang Tshul, the Lama of Tibet. It is wrong to say that the film will wound the feelings of Buddhists all over the world.

Even Buddhist leaders of Ceylon like Sir D. B. Jayatilake, a representative of Government of Ceylon in India, has supported the cause. He has stated in a letter: "I do not think that objection can be raised against the present proposal. I would like to add that the picture will be of great propaganda value".

BISHOP OF LAHORE ON CINEMA

In speaking of the responsibilities of University men and women, in the Punjab University Convocation, the Bishop of Lahore said:—

The cinema in India is still in the earlier stages of its development. In some ways it has avoided the less reputable feature of Hollywood; in some ways it has been too slavish in following suit. Often it deals with great themes which are inspiring and uplifting; sometimes it does not play so worthy a part. The cinema all the world over must cater for the public taste if it is adequately to fill its halls. Its influence is (to use one of its own hyperbolic adjectives) stupendous. Increasing numbers of people patronise the cinema. It is therefore all the more important that the public mind and national taste should be purified and not degraded. Here is a great influence waiting to be harnessed for good ends. University men and women should be interested in it. Their influence should be to keep it at high level not only insisting on technical perfection but the presentation of stories and themes which, even in their excitements and developments, raise the national taste of degrading it.

MOTOR ROAD TO TIRUPATI HILLS

A new page in the annals of Hindu religious worship was turned on April 10, when His Excellency Sir Arthur Hope, Governor of Madras, cutting a stretch of ribbon, declared open the motor road from Tirupati to the top of Tirumalai Hills.

The creation of this new amenity satisfies a need felt through centuries of Hindu pilgrim history—the need of easy and quick access to the Shrine of Sri Venkateswara known as "Lord of the Seven Hills" and to devout North Indian Hindus by the almost endearing appellation of "Balaji."

For, till now pilgrims had to trudge on foot the six mile stairway, cut on the rocks, leading in ups and downs from Tirupati at the foot of the Hill to the shrine 2,600 feet above, on Tirumalai Hills.

The road declared open by His Excellency covers this altitude of 2,600 feet in a run stretching 11 miles and 3 furlongs, with a maximum gradient of one in eighteen. The general width of the road is 27 feet, of which the middle 18 feet is metalled The difficult portions of the road are the first two miles and the last three miles The road negotiates several rises and falls, and a deep valley that intervenes presents some difficulties. Despite, however, a number of curves and hairpin bends, the road is so laid out as to be easily negotiable by even the biggest cars.

The road was completed at a cost of six lakhs of rupees

MOTOR CAR PRICES

In order to check profiteering in the sale of motor cars, the Government of India, it is reported, are considering means to control prices of all old cars in India.

It is stated that no one will be allowed to sell cars except to an authorised dealer, and permission for that purpose will also have to be obtained from the local transport authorities. A dealer will be able to sell to customers only at certain graded rates of profits.

It is likely that the sale of cars will also be brought under the purview of the anti hoarding and profiteering ordinance.

AMERICAN-BUILT AERODROMES IN INDIA

"Government have seen Press reports to the effect that sections of public opinion in the United States of America have urged the acquisition of certain rights in relation to aerodromes built with American funds in other countries", said the Secretary, Posts and Air, Sir Gurunath Bewoor, in reply to Sir A. H. Ghaznavi in the Assembly. "No question of the transfer of sovereignty can arise and indeed, according to Press reports, the President of the United States has rejected any such idea", he added.

Q: Are Government vigilant about safeguarding essential Indian rights in any post war settlement about civil aviation, particularly with reference to questions of transit or control of air ports or of adequate share in empire and international air transport, and have the Government of India under preparation a blue print of post-war air development in India?

A. Yes.

In reply to supplementaries Sir Gurunath explained that the right referred to was the right to use the aerodrome for traffic purposes.

Mr Neogy: How many aerodromes have been built in India by Americans? Sir Gurunath said that he was unable to answer that question, and explained that his department was not concerned with military aerodromes.

WORLD'S LARGEST FLYING BOAT

The world's largest operating airplane, the Mars, has completed its first round trip to Hawaii, setting a new record in the weight of cargo carried by plane across the Pacific. The Mars completed the 4,700 mile round trip in 27 hours and 26 minutes total flying time and delivered 20,500 pounds of cargo.

The ship's skipper, setting the great boat down on San Francisco Bay after a three and a half day trip, said, "She behaved beautifully. We carried twice the load ever flown by plane to Hawaii when we arrived there on the morning of January 23, and then beat our own record on the way back.

"The Mars proved herself economical. Per pounds carried, it was the cheapest air haul ever made across the Pacific.

INDUSTRIALISATION OF INDIA

A group of Indian engineers and businessmen in America, believing that "the mother country's first need is industrialisation," have formed an organisation called the India Technical Association, whose object is to promote Indo-American relations in aid of their programme. About 50 Indian scientists, technologists and businessmen in America have so far joined the movement.

Mr. N. R. Joshi, one of the organizers of the Association, said, "Our purpose is to make and propagate plans for the rapid, industrial and technological developments in India. In this, we naturally look to America for co-operation and help. We hope to bring about a better understanding between manufacturers in America and India. We hope that Indian students may be brought here by American firms for training, and then return to India as representatives of American firms". Mr. Joshi stressed that the Association had no motive or purpose beyond the industrial development of India and that it would work through established channels. Dr. V. R. Kokatnur, Chemical Engineer, now working with the United States Army, and Dr. B. V. Bhoots, Civil Engineer, employed by a New York firm, are active on the organising committee.

Mr. GHANDY ON INDUSTRIALISATION

"Where is India in this world of progress? We are not able to manufacture aircraft or automobiles. A proper ship-building industry is still unknown. Our requirements of heavy machinery have to be supplied from abroad and we are content to utilise the great reservoir of scientific talent that exists in the country for the purpose of maintenance and operation of machines designed and constructed in foreign countries. What heightens the sense of tragedy is the fact that a country so unusually rich in natural resources as India should be so backward in industrial development",—thus spoke Mr. J. J. Ghandy, C.I.E., General Manager, Tata Iron & Steel Co., Ltd., in the course of his presidential address delivered at the Engineering and Metallurgy Section of the Indian Science Congress held at Delhi.

FARMING ON CO-OPERATIVE BASIS

The Food Expert, Sir John Russell, broadcasting to India, said that peasants and cultivators everywhere were hoping for a higher standard of living in the future, and one of the surest ways of securing this was to widen their range of production, improving greatly their live-stock, husbandry, and milk production, and producing more and better fruit. One way in which engineers were helping in fighting the famine, had been the invention of many kinds of engines. Tractors were expensive and could not usually be bought by small farmers. Sir John continued, "The small farmer can, however, get much benefit from machine, owned and worked by Co-operative Societies, and that is one of the many reasons why small farmers in any country, especially India, should learn to co-operate."

NEW DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

The creation of a separate Department of Agriculture at an early date is envisaged in well-informed circles in Delhi, says a press correspondent. At present agriculture is under the Department of Education, Health and Lands. It is felt here that adequate attention under present arrangements is not paid to agriculture, and for the purposes of post-war planning of India's basic industry a separate Department is regarded as essential. The new Department which will continue to be under Sir Jogendra Singh, will deal with agriculture, forestry, fisheries, etc. Sir Jogendra Singh's portfolio is likely to be called Agriculture and Development Department containing Education and Health.

AGRICULTURAL LOANS

According to an amendment to Madras Land Improvement and Agriculturists' Loans (General Rules), loans received by agriculturists shall be repayable with interest at 4 cent. per annum or if the landholder wants a longer time to repay them in not more than 20 annual instalments with interest at the rates notified by the Government under Rule 4.

Dr. B. V. NATH

Dr. B. V. Nath, till recently Director of the Imperial Council of Agricultural and Scientific Research, has accepted the offer of the Madras Government to become the Director of Agriculture, Madras.

LABOUR POLICY

Mr. N. M. Joshi initiated a debate in the Central Assembly on the Labour Department's policy regarding labour questions. He declared that these had worsened during the war and he objected to the permission given by the Government for longer hours of work. Labour was so plentiful in India that if the Government wanted to increase war production they could have introduced the system of shifts, and paid workers better. He complained that although the Dearness Allowance Committee appointed by the Government had made its report, the Government had not published it. Occasional unemployment resulted in this country because of a shortage of coal, or for other reasons for which labour was not responsible and the Government, he said, should pay compensation to workmen in these cases. He suggested that the Tripartite Conference be provided with its own staff, an independent chairman, and a whole-time secretary. The Government of India should plan big things for labour, as they were planning big things for other classes A strong representative committee should be appointed to consider labour questions, and to suggest bold measures for a Beveridge Plan for Labour. He also wanted a whole time Labour Minister.

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN INDIA

The total number of workers employed in factories in India rose from 21,56,377 in 1941 to 22,81,563 in 1942, according to the annual report on the administration of the Factories Act, 1934, for the year 1942.

The increase was prominent in Government and Local Fund factories which employed 2,99,729 workers during the year under review as compared with 2,20,086 workers in the previous year. The report also shows that the number of workers in factories other than Government and Local Fund factories had increased from 19,36,291 to 19,81,834, the increase being prominent in the Cotton Textile Group, *i.e.*, spinning, weaving and other factories. In this group the number of workers employed increased from 5,93,707 in 1941 to 6,08,975 in 1942.

BENGAL'S MORTALITY

Deaths in Bengal from all causes in 1943 totalled 18,73,749, which is 58 per cent. above the average number of deaths in the Province during the last five years, says a press note issued by the Government of Bengal.

Deaths from cholera numbered 2,14,175 in 1943, which is 1,60,909 above the average. Malaria accounted for 6,74,330, showing an increase of 285,792 above the average.

There were 22,005 deaths from smallpox, the corresponding annual average for the last five years being less by 14,075. The total annual average of deaths from all causes for the last five years is 11,84,903.

In publishing these figures, Government state that they are now complete.

VICEREGAL EXPENSES

The Viceroy's salary is about £20,000 a year, plus a sumptuary allowance of £3,000. He also gets a grant, we are told, which is roughly equivalent to four times his salary, for his staff, his comings and goings and perhaps a few other extras.

Here are two items of expenditure in Willingdon's penultimate year and Linlithgow's 2nd year:—

	1934-35	*1937-38*
Private Secretary's Establishment	£14,516	£26,023
The Viceroy's Tours	£29,156	£39,000

FREEDOM FOR NEGROES

The Negro singer and actor, Paul Robeson, warned newspaper correspondents, in an interview in New York against the danger of the post war exploitation of Africa "The U.S. will have a tremendous lot to say about what happens in Africa after the war," he said.

The temper of the American Negro had changed during the war, Robeson added, and he now wanted his freedom.

MAJOR GEN. LENTAIGNE

It is announced that Major General W. D. C. Lentaigne, formerly a Brigadier commanding a Chindits Column, has been appointed to succeed the late Major-General Wingate.

Major-General Lentaigne is regarded as one of the most experienced Chindit officers.

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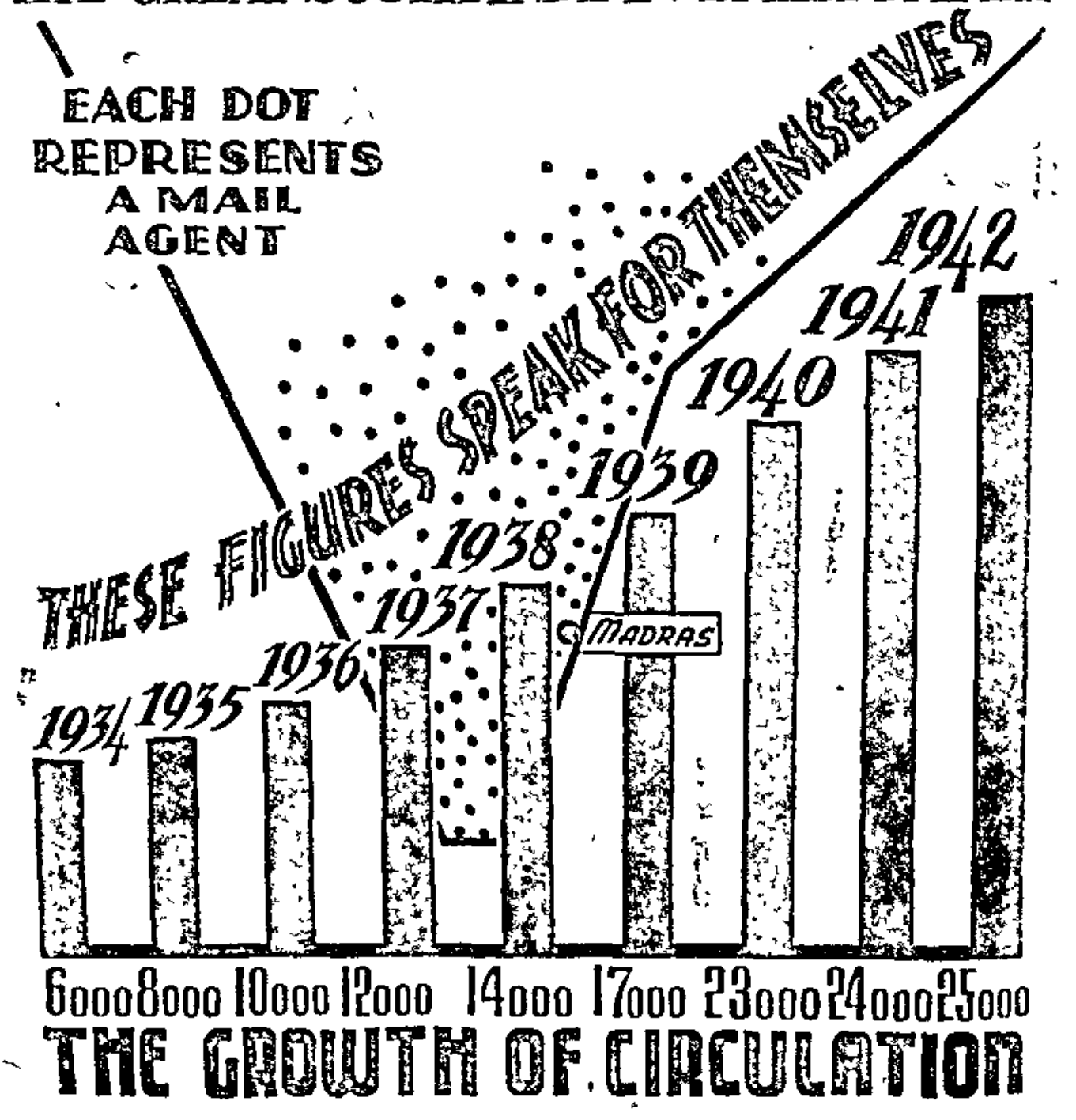
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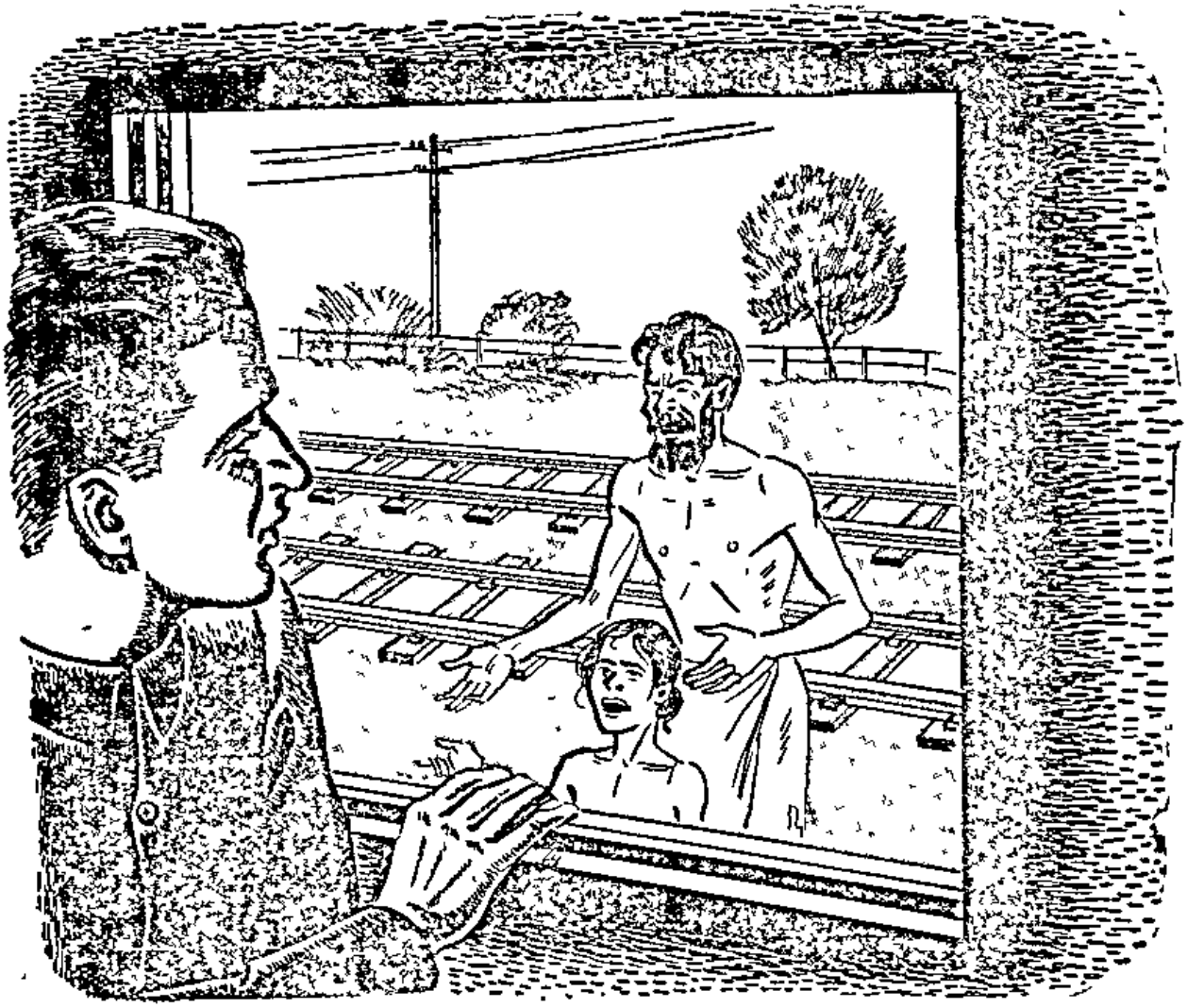
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Some of them suffer from food shortage, some from lack of other necessities of life. Mercifully, their number is getting less and less, but there are still many and their cry must not go unanswered. The Railways' first obligation is to them. The distribution of food and civil supplies must take precedence over passenger travel. So, if your accommodation is crowded—if tickets are difficult to buy—if travelling is uncomfortable, bear in mind those poor people. Appreciate the Railways' difficulties, and if you want to do your bit, stay at home and travel only when you must.

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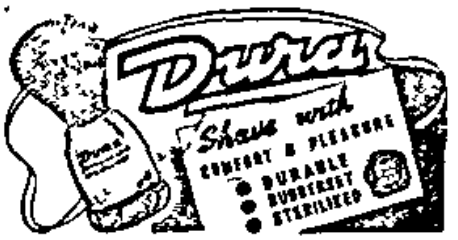
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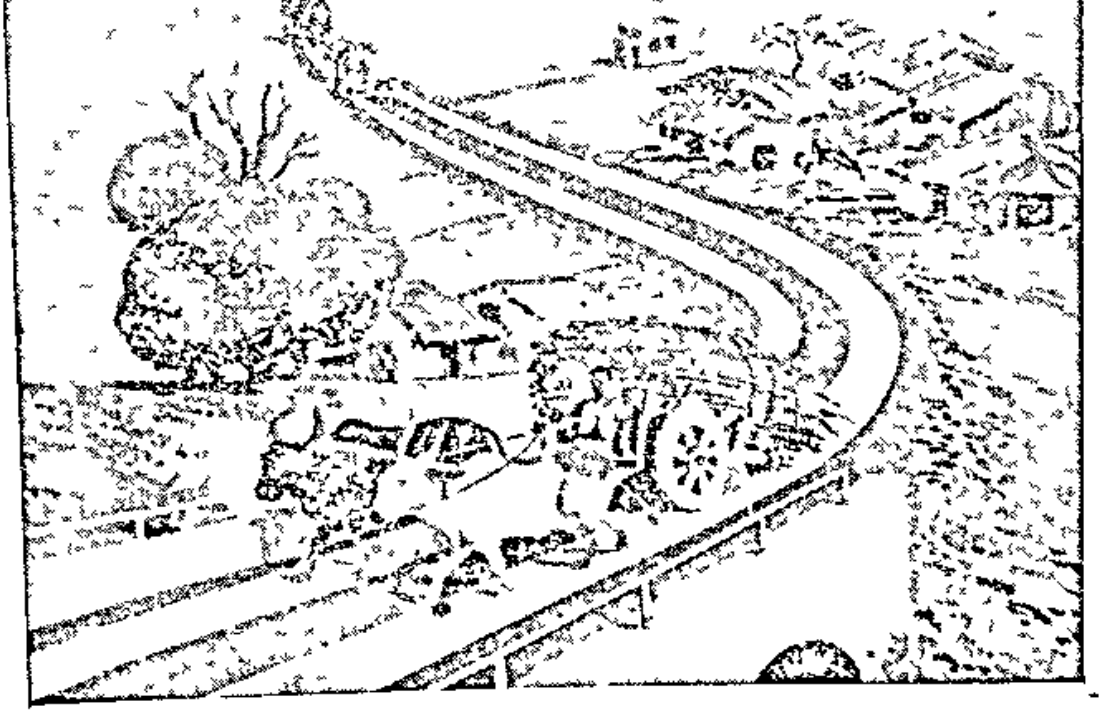
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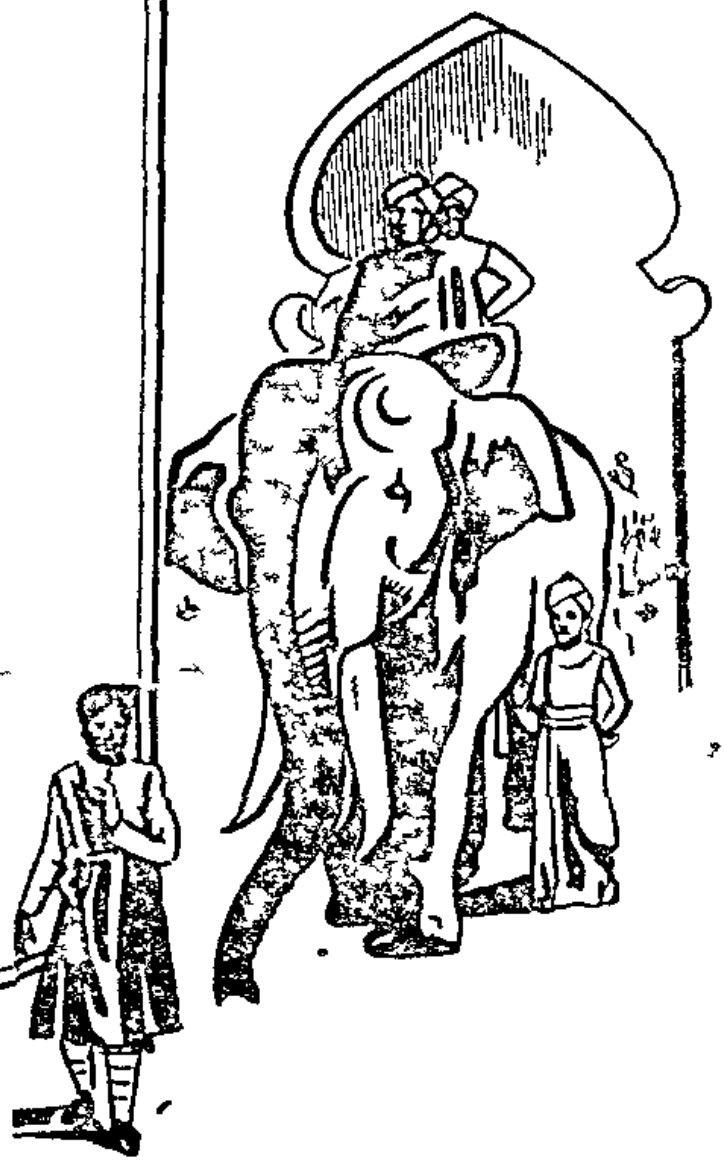
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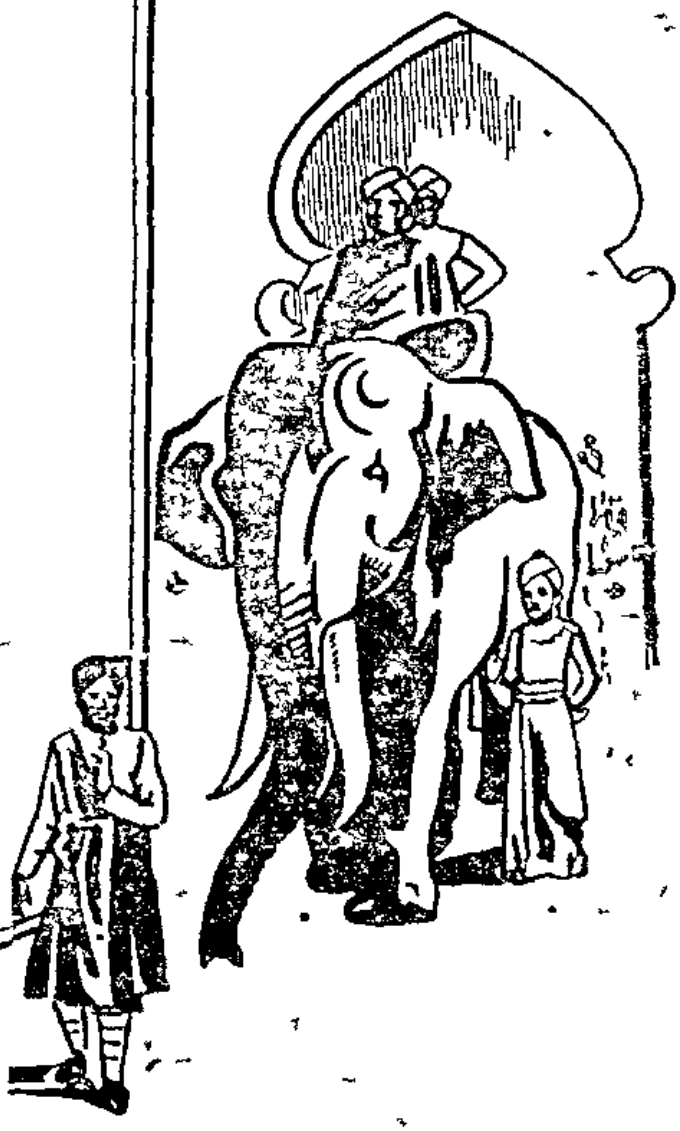
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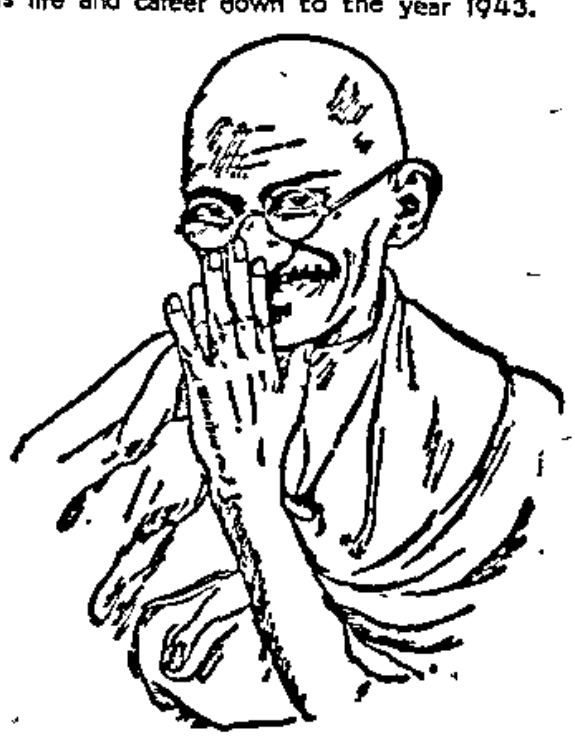
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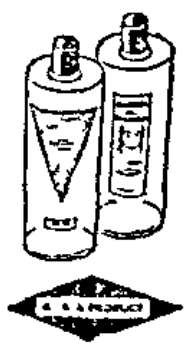
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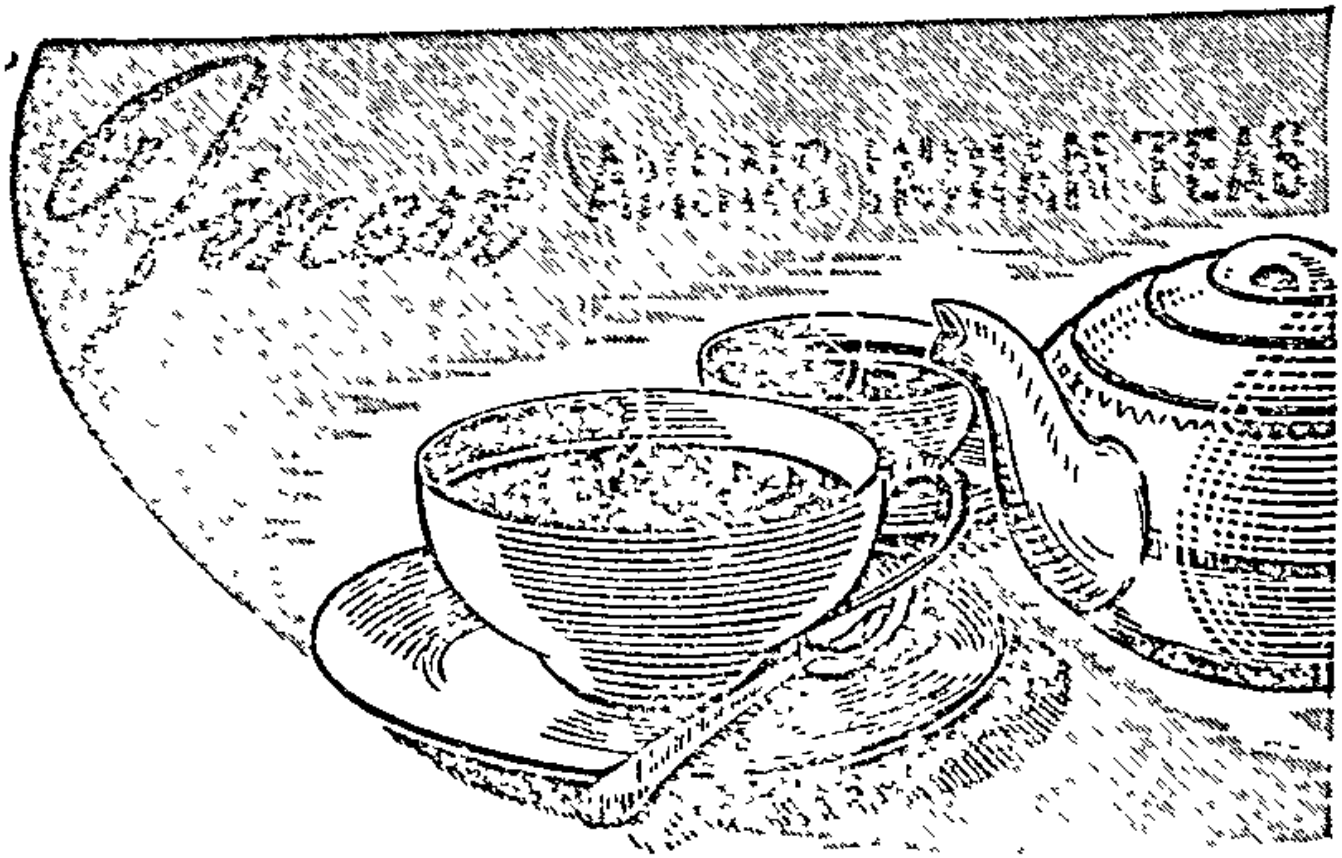
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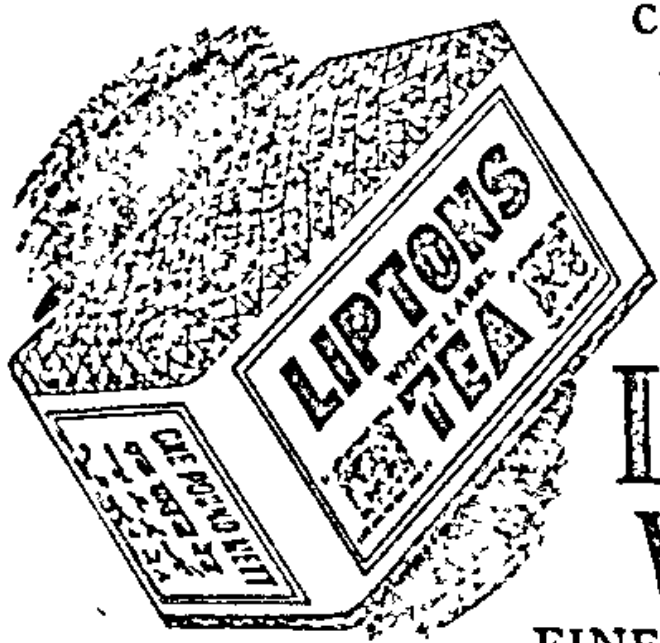
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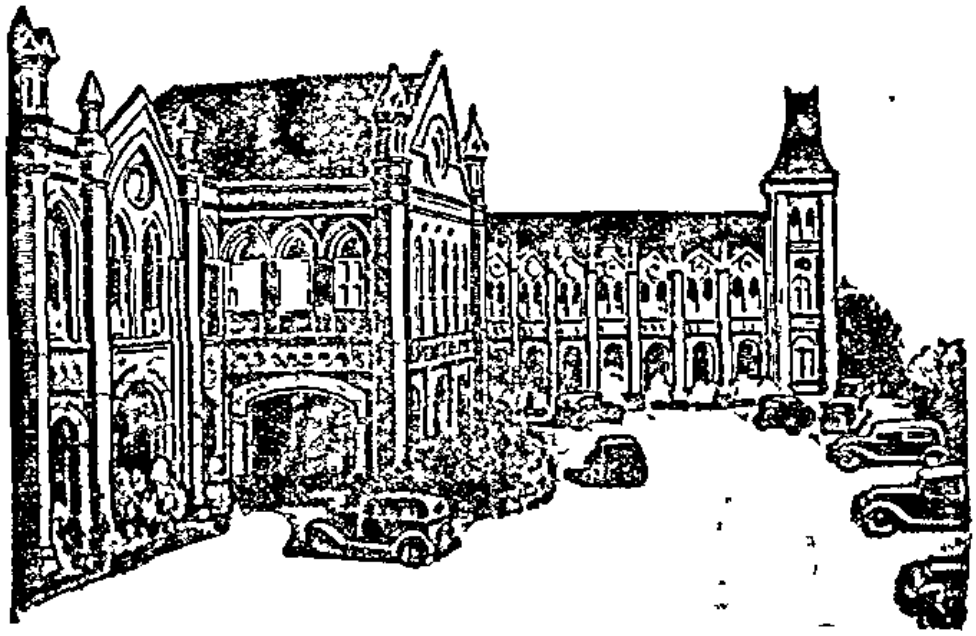
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A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL TOPICS OF INTEREST

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.] JUNE 1944 [No. 6.

A Gap in Our Industrial Organization

BY ST NIHAL SINGH

OUT of this war there has come to us a revelation It is a startling revelation—startling because the gap in our industrial organization that has been revealed was right in front of our eyes all the time It stared us in the face It was no small hole either nor was it covered by rank vegetation or luxuriantly growing thick leaved scrub The gap was large It was ugly looking Because it was economic in character it reproduced itself in our intellectual and political life In the body social and the body politic there were resultant gaps

The large ugly looking hole that the war has revealed is in paper production Activity spread over many decades particularly during this generation has plugged—partially or wholly—most of the gaps in this branch of our national economy Only this nasty one remains

When the editor of this *Review* and I started plying our journalistic pens not quite half a century ago practically all our paper requirements were supplied from external sources What little paper was produced in our country was almost entirely hand made The only attempt made to substitute mechanical processes for the old fashioned cumbersome ones displayed enterprise upon the part of the men who essayed them For a considerable time the out turn was however negligible compared with the imports of paper

Now that time has bleached our hair snow white a fence—invisible to be sure but nevertheless effective—has come into being all along our seaboard Paper of foreign origin has to jump over it Mighty little has within it the potentiality to accomplish that feat with any substantial measure of success

With one exception That exception is the paper that goes into our press rooms white and comes out of them as black and white sometimes red black and white and sometimes polychrome in hue In trade parlance it is newsprint

There has been a great dearth of paper of this description ever since the beginning of hostilities As boards in newspaper go downs reached alarmingly near the exhaustion point the cry went up When supplies in the market ran low the howling became louder

In this outcry the readers of newspapers joined in the chorus They had to pay more for what they got and received much less

This double grievance woke up persons who formerly were apathetic to a realization of the gap in our industrial organization We had not attempted to manufacture newsprint—or at least attempted it on a commercial scale Every sheet that we held in our hands—every page that we glanced at or read with care—had been made in Europe or North America.

So long as newsprint somehow or other found its way through this large hole in our manufacturing economy the people did not realize that there was any hole at all So plentiful and so cheap was newsprint in the days of semi peace between the and the preceding world war that few persons troubled to speculate as to where it had been made and how it had got to us

Newspapers were to be becoming larger and larger Cheaper too. From an expert

popular with officials that had been sold at four annas the copy was reduced to one anna. An Englishman, who once was with me in Fleet Street and had drifted into Indian journalism, was quite proud of scaling it down to the "popular price" level—a one anna bit.

When recently the last of the newspaper proprietors fell in with the official mandate regulating the sizes and prices of newspapers, the readers in general began to enquire into the why and wherefore of the situation.

"Shipping is short," they were told. "Supplies of newsprint are shorter."

This was true.
But why true?
Because of the ugly gap in our production.
But why the gap in our production?

No convincing reply has ever been vouchsafed to this question—the most pregnant of questions.

Not that answers have not been attempted. Many, indeed, have been the explanations. None, however, has been adequate. Certainly none has been satisfactory.

If actual humbug is not ladled out to the public, the explanation-givers seek refuge in technicalities. The truth—at least as I see it—is unmistakably clear.

Our paper-makers have so far attempted only paper of good quality—"superior", I think, is the term used. They have also made paper of superfine quality, creditable to them and even more so to the chemists upon the basis of whose researches these results have been achieved.

No encomium passed on the workers at the Indian Forest Research Institute at New Forest, Debra Dun, could be too high.

Paper of good quality was a better proposition from the financial point of view than would have been newsprint, a poor quality, cheap paper. These papers gave, almost from the start, a good return on the capital invested.

So long as the paper-makers confined their activities to the manufacture of such grades, they could follow the line of least resistance. They could obtain the materials they put into the pulp-pot almost at their doors. Grasses, bamboo of various descriptions and certain kinds of pulp-wood that they largely utilized could be had easily and cheaply.

The forests near by abounded in them. The conservators were only too happy to have these products exploited for such purposes. It added to the revenue—made their monthly and annual returns look more prosperous. So foresters were as well satisfied as were the manufacturers of newsprint.

The manufacture of newsprint could not be attempted so long as the makers adhered to the policy of pursuing the line of least resistance. Soft woods were needed for this purpose, if possible, in close proximity of never-failing sources of water-power. Only under such conditions could this branch of paper production be carried on upon anything like an economic scale.

The pulp-wood requisite for newsprint-making exist in our Motherland in immense quantities. Our forests have extensive *reserves of several such species.*

These reserves are not, however, situated at the manufacturers' door—not even near it. The haulage would add enormously to the cost of production, were production to be carried on in the factories at the existing sites.

Then, too, it is a question of accessibility. These species of pulp-wood often grow in areas without communications or with poor communications.

If this gap in our industrial organization is to be closed—closed even part way—many agencies will have to work shoulder to shoulder. Men in superior control of our communications will have to show a degree of enterprise that so far has been wanting in India—the kind of enterprise that has characterized the pioneer countries of the New World. Governments owning forests will also have to evince a spirit to get together with financiers so as to remove obstacles. The difficulties of obtaining plants that could be put down immediately in the less remote forest areas cannot be overcome now and, I fear, for a long time to come, without the official blessing—and backing.

HISTORIC KANDY

By Mr D T DEVENDRA

—) O (—

ON the 2nd of March 1815 when the chieftains of Kandy who had assembled in the Audience Hall in solemn convention ceded the sovereignty of the mountain kingdom that had been the rugged heart of Lanka which had throbbed with the spirit of its two millennium old independence none would have dreamt that the city would invite the world wide attention that it has done one hundred and twenty nine years later in the year 1941 Kandy so the future appeared was no more to hear war s alarms. It is otherwise and today the spotlight of history in the making has been turned on Lanka s Hill Capital

Though available records indicate a bare half dozen centuries as the age of Kandy it is quite probable that its age is much greater Within a short distance of it there are unmistakable signs of ancient occupation These are caves with inscrip tions which tell us that they had been donated to Buddhist ascetic monks in the years before the birth of Christ It is true that the mountain country the hard core of Lanka had not been popular with the first Aryan settlers of the sixth or fifth century B C Nevertheless some parts of it had been lived in as far back as these pre Christian times The Brahmi legends incised on the brows of these once tenanted caves are sure evidence of it Thus with the proximity of these settlements it is unlikely that Kandy had been discovered only some six centuries ago by a king who was reigning in a neighbouring city It is more probable that he himself had had heard a tradition of Kandy s strategic value and decided to transfer the seat of government to his discovery

The story of the find has victory as its or gin The king was out a hunting one day when he got lost in the tangled forest that was then Kandy Wandering aimlessly he al ghted on a cave where lived a Brahmin ascetic by the name of Senkhanda The king consulted the forest dweller s wisdom on his plan of a new city The latter listened to the monarch and to the royalty s shock picked up a pebble He threw the pebble into a bush —and out scampered a frightened hare Then he threw another pebble in a different direction A jackal darted out of a hole and seeing the hare straightway gave it chase The race was run only a few yards Suddenly the fleeing hare turned back as if in deflance of his challenger The jackal immediately turned tail and the strange spectacle was soon lost in the undergrowth The spot where the unnatural experience began so the Brahmin explained was a Jaya Bhumi or Auspicious Place The king obeyed the sign and built the city of Kandy

Thus the tale But undoubtedly there were other reasons for the king s choice And the unconquerable spirit of Kandy its long tales of dogged resistance its invulner ability are all tributes to royal wisdom

From the time of the first European contact with Ceylon the city had been visited by ambassadors of several nations They have left behind interesting records of their experiences and observations Robert Knox a British prisoner of the king for two decades who returned home in 1680 has written an astonishingly graphic account not so much of Kandy itself as of the kingdom and its inhabitants It is a valuable book to which historians freely refer Among others of his race who went thither were John Pybus Hugh Boyd and Robert Andrews all in the service of the East India Company who too wrote revealing accounts of their journeys The account of Pybus mission to King Kirti Sri Rajasinha (of cherished memory) was found in the records of the Madras Govern ment and published a hundred years Lat from his Report to the Hon ble Geo Pigot Esq President and Gover and the Gentlemen of the Select Comm at Fort St George (17) One of the exhibits at the Kandy National Museum is the copper plate grant of [illegible] royal favours which were the reward of a Sinhalese officer who had been sent to conduct the ambassador to the capital

Since the early years of the sixteenth century, the three European powers which ruled the Island's maritime provinces had tried, one after another, to obtain permanent possession of this capital of the inland kingdom and so reduce the entire land into submission. But their expeditions brought severe disasters on themselves. *Finally, it was the Kandyans themselves* who brought the foreigners into their land to expel the last (Malabar) King and thus handed over their proud realm to the keeping of His Britannic Majesty. To this day it is with justifiable pride that they claim that their land had *never been conquered*. The issue at Waterloo eclipsed the news of this new colonial legacy for the moment. But the value of the acquisition was not to be lost on British statesmen.

The new rule soon palled and the Kandyans made several attempts to end it. *In the rebellion of 1818, they nearly* succeeded in doing it. Indeed, serious reverses which made the situation intolerable were making the British comtemplate the abandonment of Kandy. They felt, to use a Sinhalese *idiom, like* the man who had seized the leopard by its tail, that is, they could neither continue long their hold of it nor dared they let it go. Chiefly on account of the lack of organization, the Kandyan *struggle lost its sting at last.* To the British it had been touch and go. But the lessons they learnt from it came in very useful in the later risings which were sporadically made as the century *progressed.*

After obtaining control of the city, the British made it their first task to open it up in much the same way as they did to Scotland after stamping out the Young Pretenders' rebellion of 1745 at Culloden Moor. The results were similarly beneficial, for this new policy ensured its continued possession. Another reason that led them to do it was the establishment of plantations or estates *which, originally* of coffee, are now replaced by tea. The early planters, all of whom were Britishers, were the severest critics of the Government. Their criticism, actuated by selfish motives, has *incidentally been to* the political advantage of the permanent population.

These estates are of especial interest to India. In them live labourers whose increasing members attracted the attention of the Indian Government which sent out a Civil Servant as its Agent and, more recently, a high-ranking politician to watch the wider interests that must necessarily arise. Kandy is the centre *of planting life,* whether employer or employee.

Kandy is the national capital, too, in a sense. It symbolizes, far more than cosmopolitan Colombo does, the nationhood of Lanka's principal race. In the surrounding villages live the descendants of those men who fought for their unconquered earth and they tenaciously clung to their ways of Government and of life, hardly touched by Western influences until comparatively recent times. Theirs is a tradition that is linked to the Sinhalese race far more strongly than that of the low-landers who had been dominated by Europeans three centuries earlier. Their mountains sentinelled them into a com*mendable conservatism.*

To Kandy patriotic sentiment pays homage to this day. Of all the numerous ancient capitals of Sinhalese kings, this, the last, yields pride of place in popular imagination to only two. These are the first two capitals. Kandy, chronologically the latest of a long series, comes third. By its famed Temple of the Buddha's Tooth and the historic Esala Festival (July—August), a vast pagent whose origin is lost in the mists of antiquity, it is strongly woven into the religious life of the Buddhists. It has also long been recognized as the cultural capital of the Island and in its principal suburb will be laid out the magnificent University buildings, which a famous architect has planned, when the last shot has been fired in this grim struggle and tanks have to give place to tractors.

Set in a smiling valley with a sapphire lake mirroring the intriguing hues of the *mighty hills* that ring round it, Kandy, with its storied past and quaint old-world architecture, is very dear to the wistful Sinhalese to whom it will always be, as it was in the days of their own kings, the Great City.

EDUCATION FOR FREEDOM

By Prof. K. R BOMBWALL

MARSHAL Goering was once reported to have said that he felt like drawing out his revolver every time he heard the word 'culture" mentioned Soon the execration, on the part of the Nazi Brotherhood, of the human heritage of civilisation reached a point of frenzy The revolver was fired and culture lay dead in Germany. Though the Nazi vandals have failed in realising their megalomaniac dream of imposing their suzerainty over the world at large, they have succeeded in throwing their own country into the slough of bondage It is now admitted as an ineluctable fact that Hitler Goering, Goebbles and Co have made the average German their willing tool The answer to the question how they have done this is to be sought in the cynical ruthlessness with which they launched their nefarious campaign of "total education —a campaign supported by such peaceful and persuasive devices as the Gestapo the concentration camp and the firing squad—with a view to steam rollering a whole nation into a pre determined sub human type incapable of thinking independently but endowed with remarkable robot like efficiency. The Nazi bent upon indoctrinating the people with his sinister ideology, has always understood the term "education" in its widest connotation and has pressed into service all educational media such as the home, the school, the church, the cinema, the radio and the popular demagogue

Said Ruskin "You do not educate a man by telling him what he does not know but by making him what he is not" The Nazi educational directorate, like those *in charge of education in the so called* democracies, has grasped the truth embodied in this dictum but, unlike them, it has gone a step further and has made it the foundation of its edifice Of course it would make poor Ruskin turn in his grave if he were to know what kind of "men ' the Nazi educational machinery is designed to turn out

It is this aspect of Nazism that constitutes the most formidable menace to civilisation The whole trend of modern civilisation, according to Dean Inge, has been towards the recognition of the inalienable rights of the individual and the sacredness of human personality. The sanctity of the individual and the realisation that each person has a soul of inestimable value—these have also been the fundamentals of ancient Indian philosophy The Gita holds the Sudra different from but not necessarily inferior to the Brahman. This is due to the essential sameness of all souls "I am the Atman, the Ego present in the hearts of all beings," thus spake the Lord

Man, whether he is considered in the context of his physical environment or as a part of the social fabric, is designed by *his Maker to be essentially* free, subject, no doubt, to the proviso that his freedom is not used in such a way as to jeopardise the interests of the body politic wherof he is a member

Take man in relation to his physical environment It will be readily conceded that, very largely, he is a part of his surroundings, bound to obey the universal and inexorable laws of nature This however does not lend even the ghost of a justification to the belief that he is a mere cog in a vast machine ruled by necessity The biologist talks about the struggle of existence and the survival of the fittest meaning by the "fittest" those who can successfully adjust themselves to their environment True, but the story of evolution is not merely a colourless tale of man's submissive adaptation to changing physical conditions Indeed, in higher stages of evolution, man acquired the power of manipulating his environment to suit his own *needs—witness* the advance of science which has made man as much a master as a slave of Nature

Similarly, the individual is not a mere satellite revolving round some huge disembodied entity like Society or State In point of fact, each individual is a world unto himself Not that he is entirely self centred and independent of his social context The individual's liberty is necessarily circumscribed in the interest of general welfare yet, in the interest of the same general welfare, he must enjoy a fairly large measure of freedom, for,

individual initiative—which the complete subjugation of the individual to the State-leviathan is bound to destroy—is the condition precedent of human progress. The individual has obligations to humanity but he should not be conceived as existing for the State The State has admirably been called the playground for man's personality.

It is the freedom of the individual that totalitarian theory and practice of education seek to annihilate. In dictator-governed countries—we take Germany as an obvious instance—education has become the hunting ground of politicians. The German politicians have done their job with characteristic thoroughness and have relentlessly applied "education" to the end of dragooning their people into mere automata devoid of individuality, amenable to mental as well as physical regimentation and capable only of thinking and acting in a prescribed manner. Naturally, in such a country freethinking is bound to be viewed with the greatest apprehension, for, according to Carlyle, "a thinking man is the worst enemy that the Prince of Darkness can have". Centuries back, Socrates was made to quaff the cup of poison because his thoughts were unpalatable to the powers that were. History is repeating itself with a vengeance in Germany of the present day. M L. Jacks in his *Education as a Social Factor* quotes from some articles in the *New Statesman* written by an Englishman who had, before the present war broke out, worked in a German school for three years. It appears Nazi officials pay surprise visits to the schools, cross-question the teacher in the presence of his students and, if necessary, arrest him on the spot. Attempts are made to worm out information from the innocent boys regarding the political views of their parents. The schools are made to teach a new religion. For instance children are taught that Hitler is second Jesus, doubtless infinitely better than the first. A curious catechism has been drawn up. The teacher asks, "Who reminds you of Jesus by his love for the people and his self-sacrifice"? The boys answer in chorus, "Herr Hitler." Again, the teacher asks, "And who by their loyalty and devotion remind us of the disciples"? The inevitable answer is: "General Goering, Dr. Goebbles, etc., etc." Thus are people being fashioned into mere cogs in the political machinery. Of course, the subjection of the masses inevitably exacts a heavy price from the "masters".

The so-called democracies have, generally speaking, followed a policy of benevolent neutrality in educational matters except where they aquiesced in allowing education to become a bulwark of antiquated and inequitous traditions. No wonder, therefore, that the need of a re-orientation of educational objectives and methods is being felt on all hands. The orientation, it is also conceded, must be in the direction of freedom.

The problem of educational reconstruction has a particular urgency where India is concerned. Educational ideals and practice will have to be radically replanned if our motherland is to re-capture the resplendent splendour that was hers in her halcyon days. In replanning our education we will have to avoid the mistake of seeking guidance from the West. We are living in a world groaning under the debris of crumbling materialistic civilisation of the Occident. If humanity is to be rehabilitated, the reviving breath of fresh life will come from the pastures of the East. We possess a spiritual philosophy of life, government and education bequeathed to us by our great *poorvajas*. If we disown our mighty ancients and dance to the tunes of the Circe of the West, we will court disaster.

While I was writing the above, a friend sailed into my room and, bending over my shoulders, read the last few words. "Writing the same old bilge"? said he. "Why this interminable harping on the mighty ancients gets on my nerves. The ancients may have been mighty and spiritual and all that and, in all conscience, we have paid heavy enough for their spirituality. See where we stand in the estimation of the world. And, pray, don't forget that the ancients are, after all, ancients, whereas we are living in the twentieth century when our future depends on our beating the West on its own ground. And, education, for that seems to be the subject of lucubrations, ceases to be education if it remains tied to the apron-strings of the dead past. Modern problems need modern remedies."

This I believe represents the attitude of many an Indian to day and a very grievously mistaken attitude it is! True bondage to a dead past would be the worst form of slavery But is our past really dead? And further does not true progress lie in the words of a great writer not in cutting adrift from the past as on a road but in drawing sustenance from it as from a root?

Methods of imparting instruction curricula—subjects—on these points it will obviously not be the essence of wisdom to seek the last word in the past But we are concerned here not with methods and curricula which after all are only means to an end but with the end itself And on the end of education what better guidance can we get than that offered to us by the great rishis of yore

THE SITUATION IN THE PUNJAB

RETROSPECT AND PROSPECT

BY MR C V H RAO

"IT is a slap in the face of Mr Jinnah He intended to capture the Punjab for Pakistan but it has been conquered for India These comments represent the general feeling in the Punjab over the failure of the Jinnah Khizar Hyat talks in the last week of April This development is of more far reaching significance than is probably apparent on the surface Undoubtedly Mr Jinnah made the most determined onslaught on the Unionist citadel in the province and left no stone unturned to convert Malik Khizar Hyat Khan Tiwana to his policy of installing a League Ministry in the Punjab It was the central and pivotal factor in Mr Jinnah s campaign because the establishment of a Pakistan Ministry in the Punjab which is regarded in League circles as the keystone of the Pakistan edifice would have been a great triumph for him which he could have paraded before the world as a feather in his cap But this ambition was foiled by the firm and unflagging stand made by Malik Khizar Hyat who refused to shake the dust of Unionism off his feet

Let it be made clear here that the Unionist Ministry and party are not an ideal coalition or combination by any means *pace* Lord Wavell During the last six years the Unionist Ministry s policy and programme have not been such as to distinguish them very much from those of a purely League Party But in its name at least the Unionist Party is a non communal party and that its basis as such should not be undermined was the essence of the Jinnah Sikandar Pact The merit of the Punjab Premier s action* consists in this that he decided that in his conversations with Mr Jinnah the more honourable course was for him to hold fast to a solemn commitment inherent in the Sikandar Jinnah Pact by which it was mutually agreed by the two signatories that there would be no outside interference in the internal affairs of the province to its detriment and which sought to keep Punjab politics free from the taint of unadulterated communalism Mr Jinnah now denies the very existence of such a pact though he does not deny the fact of the Unionist coalition that existed in the Punjab Much in the style of a Dictator he pooh poohs the idea of any pact between a leader (himself) and a follower (Sir Sikandar) But since Mr Jinnah is not the only party to the Pact and political memories are not so very short as he imagines his denial is neither final nor unquestionable The pact does exist and even after Sir Sikandar s death it continues to be the basis of the arrangement on which the Khizar Hyat Ministry has been functioning Its existence is also confirmed by the further pact between the late Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan and Sirdar Baldev Singh which led to the Sikh participation in the Unionist Ministry

The Punjab public and the public outside the Punjab have therefore

* Since this article was written the Muslim League has expelled the Punjab Premier

reason to be beholden to the Premier for the bold stand he took in favour of excluding the communal virus from corroding the springs of its public life in a more blatant manner than at present. It is a stand which is likely to cost him dear. In fact Mr. Jinnah is reported to have threatened dire vengeance against him in his private talks, though his public utterances on the subject are couched in unusually restrained language. It is likely that he will be represented as an enemy and betrayer of Islam, it is likely that he will be subjected to a constant barrage of criticism by the Leaguers, both in the countryside and in the Assembly. But Malik Khizar Hyat has made his decision, which to everyone else except purblind and bigoted Leaguers will appear as the only self respecting decision that a man in his position could make. He is entitled, therefore, not only to congratulations immediately but to continuous and wholehearted support of all the sober and nationalistic elements in the Punjab, Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs.

One sentence in the Punjab Premier's statement in reply to Mr. Jinnah's accusations against him deserves more than a passing notice, since it constitutes an immense contribution to keeping the Punjab free from the influence of a purely communal party and reveals that Khizar Hyat Khan deliberately made his choice to fight Mr. Jinnah's insidious attempts to transform the Punjab into a sport of League politics. He says, after referring to the unsuccessful attempts made by Mr. Jinnah to convert Sir Fazli Hussain into supporting the introduction of League authority in Punjab politics, that "exactly the same question is raised again to-day some seven years later in the form of Mr. Jinnah's demands originated on the initiative of a few interested persons, and like Sir Fazli Hussain and for the same reasons, I am unable to accept the demand, which is contrary to the best interests of the Muslims of this province, who should refuse to be divided among themselves or to accept outside interference to their detriment". By his refusal to capitulate to Mr. Jinnah he has served in a much larger measure to inflict a reverse on Mr. Jinnah's Pakistanite campaign than anyone else could have done in any other way at present. For while Punjab Unionism may be bad as a political and administrative force, Muslim Leagueism, which would have meant a League dominated Ministry, is definitely worse.

The general impression in the Punjab is that Mr. Jinnah has not enhanced his reputation for democratic leadership or for political consistency and honesty when he was prone to treat the Sikandar-Jinnah Pact as worse than a scrap of paper. But there are others with longer political and less convenient memories than Mr. Jinnah and they feel with Premier Khizar that Mr. Jinnah's methods smacked of "totalitarian and dictatorial tactics" of a kind associated with Hitler.

The break between Mr. Jinnah and the Unionist Premier is only the beginning of the bitter fight that is in prospect between the principle of unadulterated communalism and the principle of an honourable coalition between the diverse communal elements in the Punjab. It will be a prolonged and interesting one too to watch. At the same time, Mr Jinnah has also unwittingly been the instrument for a sequel which he least intended.

The question is, will Mr. Jinnah, with his undoubted capacity and gifts for leadership, be the banner-bearer in such a movement for all-India communal unity and understanding or will he plough the lone, fruitless sands of Pakistan and communal schism? Mr. Jinnah regards the dismissal of Sirdar Shaukat Hyat Khan as a challenge to the League and himself and his efforts to install a League Ministry in the Punjab. Well, the correct lesson he should draw from that episode, if he is a patriotic Indian and Muslim, is to regard it as a challenge to him to effectuate a genuine heart-to-heart Hindu Muslim unity which will compel the Governor of the Punjab to appoint a truly broad-based coalition ministry in the Punjab and at the same time compel the British Government to part with power to Indians in the all-India sphere. But it appears a vain hope to expect that Mr. Jinnah will regard the situation in that light.

WHY AMERICANS FIGHT

By Prof BEARDSLEY RUML

THE first business of every American is to end the war as efficiently and as speedily as possible by total and decisive victory for the United Nations No effort can be spared no sacrifice is too great for the winning of the humane peace to which we are committed

In war especially in this war machines and healthy bodies are the tools through which the mind and the spirit work Mind and spirit are the directing and the driving forces that will get the tools used aggressively imaginatively tenaciously Mind and spirit will win the war Mind and spirit must also win the peace

The immense role of mind and spirit in the conduct of war can be observed by looking at our enemies and by contrasting them in terms of why they fight Consider the Italians the Germans and the Japanese

The Italians were led into their recent years of force and violence by a government desirous of glory and territory—all at a minimum of risk The Italians entered the war only after the collapse of Western Europe The mind and spirit of the Italian Fascist war machine looks backward in history for its glory and takes what it can get when it considers the time opportune The Fascist war machine has no deep purpose to drive it forward

The mind and spirit of the German war machine is very different from the Italian The German is not merely grasping The German has made a firm compact with destiny He has convinced himself of the propriety of his claim to a special place as the ruler of all men He has contempt for the Italians and distrust for the Japanese

Complete as has been the elaboration of a German philosophy of power, corruption and terror it will break under the pessimistic fatalism of the German mentality as the pressure becomes greater A failure of the German effort at world domination fits as well into the German philosophy of history as would success

The Japanese differs from both the German and the Italian and because of this he fights a different kind of war He lays his plans at great length he has contempt for all compacts and agreements he is tenacious vindictive and utterly devoid of any conception of humanness or humaneness

We see in our enemies a spectacle of mind and spirit differing among them in concrete expression but essentially one This mind and this spirit have shown in war their strength and also their weakness and in their weakness they have shown their basic incapacity to unite the world even for the continuing advantage of those who aspire to rule it

Recognizing the importance of mind and spirit in the conduct of the war, what can we say of the American mind and spirit? What are the purposes and the motives that inspire our American armies our workers our citizens who direct our machines in the factory and at the battlefront?

During recent years there have been a number of formulations of principle and of intent with which we Americans have found ourselves happily, in general agreement One of these is the statement of the Four Freedoms in President Roosevelt's message to the Seventy seventh Congress on January 6 1941 The second is the Atlantic Charter a joint declaration issued by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister

Churchill on August 14, 1941, after their historic conference at sea. Taken together, these formulations of purpose provide a broad and concrete frame of reference for the elaboration of even more clear-cut ideas of just what we intend to accomplish.

Let us examine briefly the content of these statements. The freedoms we are fighting and working for are: freedom of speech, freedom of worship, freedom from want, and freedom from fear. In his message to Congress President Roosevelt accompanied the statement of each freedom with the phrase, four times repeated, "everywhere in the world." We are thus embarked on a program which recognizes that the preservation of our freedoms depends on freedom for others and that what we propose to bring to our generation is not conquest and slavery but human liberty.

The Atlantic Charter deals more with the relations between sovereign states, recognizing principles affecting territory, natural resources, self-determination of form of government, co-operation between nations to raise living standards, safety from aggression, and abandonment of the use of force.

If we take these formulations together we find, running through them, a fundamental, unifying idea and belief. Each of the statements is founded on a belief in the worth and value of human beings as persons, in the essential humanity of man. Each depends, for the validity of the ideas expressed, on the acceptance of this simple faith.

Fortunately, we do not have to go outside or beyond the American tradition to find this faith. Indeed, we cannot deny or weaken this faith without altering the American tradition itself.

The faith for which we fight, the faith which is the foundation of our programs, was stated in 1776 in the first part of the second paragraph of the American Declaration of Independence. What does it say?

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal." Equal in their essential humanity, in their humanness, in their participation in the adventure and hazard of conscious life, in their perfectibility, in their aspirations, in their loneliness.

"That they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights; that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the Governed."

Here is the heart of the matter; powers not from force or precedent; powers not from ancestors, but from "consent"; consent, not of princes or of the elite, nor of the owners of land and property, but of "the Governed."

The Declaration proceeds: "Whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."

This great paragraph of the American Declaration of Independence is the foundation of our constructive program for the future, for the Four Freedoms, for the Atlantic Charter.

The doctrine of the Declaration of Independence declares the dignity and holiness of men. The Axis denies it.

We Americans declare that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed The Axis denies it The Axis not only puts the government and the state before the rights of individual persons but also declares that some individual persons have rights—natural rights—superior to those of other individual persons and that these superior rights are to be asserted by force by cunning and by deceit

This doctrine of the Axis the degradation and inequality of human beings with respect to their essential humanity we deny Our own belief is the positive central core of our fighting determination the source of our strength and tenacity the reason for our insistence on total victory

Our American belief in the essential humanity of man unites us in a common cause and divides us from our enemies As we make this moral principle firmly part of the mind and spirit of each American there can be no doubt about the outcome of the war or about the justice of the peace—which can come only after unconditional surrender by the Axis

INDIA'S FIFTH WAR BUDGET

BY PROF V G RAMAKRISHNAN M A

THE War Budget adheres to the Finance Member s old principle of social justice in framing his proposals and does not introduce any unexpected changes in the tax system In theory it has always been argued that a good system of taxation is one which broadens the basis of taxation one which bears lightly on an infinite number of points and heavily on none but the exigencies of war finance in India have shown that it is by a few substantial taxes that the bulk of the revenue has to be raised and in a country like India whose administrative machinery operating over vast territories has yet to be perfected anything like a multiple tax system has to be avoided for some time to come So we find that the new imposts for the coming year tend to fall largely on those who have the ability to pay

The financial measures outlined in the budget are bold in conception and the forecast of death duties on non agricultural property aims at strengthening provincial resources for post war development The taxation measures are much less severe than had been expected and contain a welcome relief to small income groups by raising the taxable minimum from Rs 1 000 to Rs 2 000 The increases in the sur charge on income tax and super tax apply only to incomes of Rs 10 000 and upwards and on the whole are moderate More important for its anti inflationary effect is the increase in the compulsory deposit of a proportion of the Excess Profits tax To accelerate tax payments a two per cent interest to *assessees* who pay income tax in advance quarterly is a novel and welcome step The new excise duties on tea coffee and betel make poor man s comforts more costly and it is an attempt to spread the incidence of new taxation over all sections of the community including the poorest

THE BUDGET AND THE STOCK MARKET

The new corporation and E P T tax proposals of the *Budget for 1944-45* must

inevitably lead to smaller yields, though the upward trend of share prices is likely to be sustained for some time by the heavy weight of money-seeking investment. In the coming fiscal year the dividend-paying capacity of the companies will be substantially affected. But the effect on public companies will be that the equivalent of the whole of their excess profits will go to the Government in the form of taxation or compulsory deposits. So, unless they wish to lock up their existing liquid resources by using them for payment of the compulsory deposits, they will have to limit their dividends to the figure of their standard profits *less* income-tax and corporation tax thereon. Private companies also are likely to be deprived steadily of their working finance. The Government's anti-inflationary programme and intentions as outlined by the Finance Member afford a warning to that kind of speculator who is virtually backing inflation but how far it will be effective is doubtful, for the speculative sections of the market had anticipated a much more severe budget.

BUDGET AND INFLATION

The Budget for 1944-45 is remarkable for the consolidation and extension of the anti-inflationary measures already instituted. The Finance Member estimates the total anti inflationary effect at more than Rs. 100 crores owing to the new arrangements for advance tax payments and the whole of the excess profit being immobilised by compulsory deposit. Further imports of food, capital and consumer goods and above all of bullion would cancel the inflationary potential arising from Allied Governments' spending in India. So, it might appear that the Government of India have the wherewithal not merely to curb inflation but to counter-attack it with reasonable prospects of success. Since India has repaid her sterling debt and bought out most of the railway stockholders, investors in Britain are less interested than formerly in India's budgetary position but very large commercial interests in India are keenly aware as ever of the necessity for a sound direction of India's economy. From their standpoint, the Finance Member's insistence on avoidance of the dangers of inflation is of prime significance. Suitable counter measures are vital, if run-away inflation is to be prevented. In the spheres of monetary and commodity control Government seem to have moved in the right direction, but it is less easy for India than for a country like Britain to make fully effective control of supplies and prices in order to immobilise excess spending power or to direct the excess into Government's War Chest. The crux of the whole situation is that there must be limit to the expansion of rupee circulation which is going on merrily for financing the expenditure of Allied Government. Though the Finance Member claims that there are no uncovered budgetary deficits of the Government of India, and yet there is an inflationary gap calling for special measures, it is clear that this country suffers the effects of inflation for the sake of other nations. The cure for inflation lies in putting the responsibility for rupee finance on the Allied Government. The only measure so far adopted is the sale of gold on behalf of the Allied Governments but we are not aware of the extent of these sales and their effect on the inflationary pressure. Facilities for the Reserve Bank to expand its gold reserves, a ceiling on rupee circulation, increase of consumer goods through expansion of interna-

production—these are the measures which are vital to relieve the inflationary pressure

The Budget does not disclose the vast amount of expenditure in India on British and foreign government account in relation to the war Despite the assurance of the Finance Member that there is no increased cost to India it is evident from the figures available that the note issue in India has risen from Rs 217 crores in September 1939 to over Rs 880 crores in March 1944 and this is backed by sterling balances It is revealed by the Finance Member that the sterling balances will be about Rs 950 crores towards the end of the financial year and this involves a further increase in note issue by the end of the financial year The figures of note issue show the vast volume of expenditure in India which is being financed by note issue on behalf of the United Nations purchases and the payments on behalf of Burma and other foreign governments in India The foreign purchases financed by Indian note issue are pulling up prices in India The total expenditure disclosed in the Budget is 863 crores and it is proposed by taxation and by way of compulsory induced saving to get back an equivalent amount But such anti inflationary measures proposed in the Budget do not at all touch the increase of prices and the increase of currency which is not reflected in the Budget A true picture of the magnitude of the problem can be had if the Budget were to disclose on one side the amounts lent to these purchasing bodies and foreign governments as current expenditure and on the other side the sterling and other securities provided by them as assets Incidentally it may be noted that the fact of our resources being kept in sterling will involve our taking payment in such goods as British economic trends will determine and perhaps at higher levels of prices which means less repayment in terms of real wealth

BUDGET AND POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION

The claim of the Finance Member that Indian War Finance is being so designed as to help India in post war development does not bear close examination The most disconcerting feature of Indian economy is that India s finances and economic policy are not ordered solely with reference to conditions in this country If post war reconstruction is to be something more than a mere slogan India s finances and economic policy should be improved by a concerted drive to expand national income In spite of the facile statements that there has been a remarkable growth in Indian industries in recent years India s *per capita* income remains today almost what it was a decade and half ago and recent compu tations of India s national income bear out the fact that Indian poverty is not on the downgrade There is therefore a crying need for an all out effort to improve standards of life and production But the Finance Member wants to limit post war reconstruction to the limits of current taxation and savings which if logically interpreted would mean that we shall be dependent on England and America for supplying all capital goods and manufactured articles for as long a time as possible and this conclusion is reinforced by the fact that both English and American plans for post war re construction have stressed upon the needs of keeping foreign markets The Finance Member s plan of post war reconstruction in terms of a Rs 1 000 crores for the first five years is a glaring contrast to the Bombay plan of Rs 10 000 crores in 15 years If there is to be a real increase in the wealth of India we should not limit ourselves to financing out of current savings alone As envisaged by the Government post war reconstruction in India is only a polite name for standing still

India (Attachment of States) Bill, 1944

By SARDAR RANBIR SINGH, B.A., LL.B.

HIS Majesty the Crown Representative has by communique of April 14, 1943, attached 454 States and Talukas of Gujarat and Kathiawar to certain bigger States. Later in the end of November, a communique was issued under which 16 States of Kathiawar were similarly attached. The attached units collectively cover an area of more than 7,000 square miles with population of over 8 lakhs and annual revenue of more than 70 lakhs of rupees. Meanwhile, the Bhadwa Taluka, which was included in the first Scheme of attachment, filed a petition challenging the legality of the orders of the Crown Representative issued in the communique, dated 16th April, 1943. This petition was accepted by a Bench of Judicial Commissioners at Ajmer on the 6th December, 1943, who declared the aforesaid communique and the attachment Scheme as *ultra vires*, and in contravention of the Government of India Act, 1935. The main arguments advanced on behalf of the Crown before this Court were that the Court could not question the action of the Crown Representative as the communique has been issued under the prerogative powers of the Crown and as such was an Act of State, and that the Court ceases to have authority over the case as the jurisdiction of the Court has been taken away by the notification, dated 25-8 1943. On the other hand, it was contended on behalf of the Taluka that by its attachment to Gondal State, the terms of the proviso to Section 2(1) of the Government of India Act, 1935, have been contravened and that the Crown Representative has, therefore, exceeded the powers granted to him by His Majesty in Parliament in this behalf. Under the proviso to Section 2(1) of the Act, any powers connected with the exercise of the functions of the Crown in relation with Indian States shall, if not exercised by His Majesty, be exercised only by, or by persons acting under the authority of His Majesty's Representative for the exercise of those functions of the Crown. The effect of this proviso is that where His Majesty does not exercise those functions himself, the Crown Representative or persons acting under his authority are the only persons, who can exercise any of the Royal functions exercisable in Indian States. The Indian States may be under the suzerainty of the Paramount Power, but the Crown Representative has no authority over the officers employed within the States, neither has it ever been asserted, and is entirely repugnant to the underlying principles of the 1935 Act. The Crown Representative could not transfer the jurisdiction of Agency Courts is Kathiawar to the Courts within Gondal State, who were not under the authority of the Crown Representative and no one except the Ruler himself could invest any State Officer with such judicial powers. The Court held that the communique in question was against the spirit and provisions of the 1935 Act, and was, therefore, *ultra vires* and illegal. It was also held that the prerogative ceases to exist when the field of such prerogative is covered by Statute. This principle has been accepted in 1920 Appeal Cases 508 and (1931)—I Chancery 169. But only that which has been specifically laid down will be excluded from the exercise of the prerogative. In his judgment, Mr. Verma has remarked that

the entire Scheme and the policy of the British Government has been to preserve the independence of the Indian States subject however, to certain limitations. It was never the policy of the British Government to absorb the smaller States into the larger ones and the present notification of the Crown Representative clearly militates against the Scheme laid down in the Government of India Act and the entire policy of the British Government the Crown never absorbs the State and much less merges it into another State

Thereupon the Crown Department with a view to legalise the attachment Scheme introduced the Attachment of States Bill in the Parliament It was represented there on behalf of the Government that the new Bill effects those States only which are not named in the First Schedule of the Government of India Act 1935 and would apply to very small States which lacked administrative resources and that the Bill as drafted takes nothing away from the Talukadars which they have possessed in the past On the other hand it was forcibly argued by Mr Maxton that

the Bill should never have been brought to the Parliament at all The Government of India took a knock in the Courts and the thing should have come here to be settled by the Privy Council It is said the Bill is to bring these people all the benefits which can only be secured by attachment to a larger community There has come to us news about terrible conditions in India but it has not been in these States It was in Bengal that there was starvation

Lord Strabolgi also complained that the whole business was being rushed through Parliament with inadequate haste which was in his opinion an abuse of Parliament He further stated that

the Bill was an act of indemnity for certain illegal acts done by officers in India. Instead of going to the Privy Council to have the judgment against them reversed the Government of India thought it cheaper to come to the Lords and have a new Bill

He had lived in some of the Indian States and said that they were excellently governed and administered and were far in advance of the British administration He also remarked that there was no starvation in Indian States, but there was in Bengal for which the Government was responsible It was also remarked during the discussions in Parliament whether the Crown Department could delegate its powers as a trustee to another person

It has been represented in the House of Lords that the new Bill effected those States only which are not named in the First Schedule of the Government of India Act 1935 It may be pointed out here that these States are mentioned in division XVII of the table of seats appended to para 2 of the First Schedule to the Government of India Act 1935 They have been allowed two seats in the Council of State and five seats in the Federal Assembly Thus it is not correct to say that the Attachment Bill does not effect the States mentioned in the Government of India Act The table of seats in the Act consists of XVII divisions The Attachment Bill introduced in the Parliament refers to Indian States not mentioned in division I to XVI of the table of seats and thus clearly refers to Division XVII under which the attached units are classed

The States Jagirs or Talukas effected by the aforesaid communique are admittedly Indian States as defined under Section 311 of the 1935 Act and the British Parliament cannot pass any Act effecting the Indian States as neither is such territory British territory nor are the subjects of Indian States British subjects Sir C Ilbert has observed in his treatise on Government of India 3rd Edition Page 420, that the territory of Indian Princes is for the purposes of Municipal Laws not a British territory and their subjects are not British subjects The laws of England do not apply to the State subjects The King in Parliament is precluded from legislating for the Indian States It

has also been mentioned in the *British* Year Book of International Law, 1930 (Page 55 56), that the Parliament which exercises legislative power over all British territory cannot legislate for the Indian State. The Draft of the Instrument of Accession received from the Government of India by the Rulers of Indian States to be executed by them if they agree to enter the Federation, contains a clear clause to show that the Parliament does not exercise any legislative authority within the States. The Clause runs as follows:—

> And whereas this Act cannot apply to any of my territories save by virtue of my consent and concurrence signified by my Accession to the Federation . . .

Section 101 of the 1935 Act also expressly provides that nothing in the Act should be construed as empowering the Federal Legislature to make laws for a State otherwise than in accordance with its Instrument of Accession and any limitation contained therein. Section 65 of the Government of India Act, 1919, which defines the powers of Indian Legislature also shows that it has no power to make any law effecting the subjects of Indian States. The certificate, which the India Office gave to assist the Court in assessing the status of a Ruling Prince shows that he has been held to be exercising various attributes of Sovereignty, including internal Sovereignty, which is not derived from British Law but is inherent in the Ruling Chief (Statham *versus* Statham 1912, Page 92). The allegiance of the Rulers of *Indian States to the British* Crown might effect or limit their Sovereignty in their foreign affairs; but it has never been taken to justify any interference with their internal Sovereignty and autonomy and no assertions have ever been made for exercising territorial Sovereignty over the Indian States and no legislative power has ever been claimed within the States. Rather the position of the Rulers have *always been respected and many* of the functions commonly regarded as attributes of Sovereignty have been preserved to them. (See Hemchand *versus* Azam Sakarlal Chhtam Lal 8 C.L.J. 395 (P.C.) and (the Taluka of Kotda Sangna *versus* the State of Gondal (*I.L.R. 33 Calcutta 219*) These cases have been relied upon by the Crown Council in the Ajmer case to show that the whole system of judicial administration in Kathiawar was political and not judicial in its character. But in these cases it has been clearly held that the British Government has no legislative powers within the States. In the Full Bench Case of the Calcutta High Court (8 Calcutta 985), Justice Garth has observed

> We find that the Indian Government and the Maharaja have for a long series of years concurred in considering and treating this territory as no part of British India and we also find that acts of the Indian Legislature, which have been passed over and have been acted upon throughout British India, have never been acted upon or considered to be law in this territory.

He further remarked that in his opinion the acts of interference by the British authorities which may have been intended rather as friendly aids to the Maharaja in the management of his dominions, than as evidencing any wish on the part of the Indian Government to take the rule of the territory out of the Maharaja's hands. In another case 16 Calcutta 667 (in the matter of Bichattar Nand Dass *versus* Bhagwat Persai) it was held that the British Indian Law had no application to the tributary Mahal of Kheonjar. The Bombay High Court has *also remarked in* a case reported in A. I. R. 1918 Bombay 236 that

> We have no power to legislate for Native States and feeling is so sensitive on this point that it is clearly intelligible that our legislature would have

refra ned from inserting any provision in our Statute which might have had the appearance of asserting a r ght over the Court of a Native State

As regards the argument regarding the trusteeship of contractual obligations of the Paramount Power in its relation with the Indian States it is in no way a new argument and the rights and obligations of the Indian States arising out of definite treaties or engagements with the British Government should not and could not be transferred by the Paramount Power in its capacity of a trustee or a contracting party to any other State without the full and free consent of the States concerned Much less can the Paramount Power merge these States into bigger neighbouring States as such merger would amount to a delegation of the powers of the Para mount Power to the attaching State to a certain extent and will deprive the attached States of their identity as an Indian State their independence and their prestige and traditional honour as an Indian State with direct relations with the Paramount Power

The first statement of this contractual theory was made by the Indore Government during the time of Montague Chelmsford Reforms It was later supported by Professor Keith in his book The Consti tution Administration and Laws of the Empire Professor Keith while discussing this theory wrote

> It is important to note that the relations of the Nat ve States however conducted are essentially relations with the British Crown and not with the Indian Government and that this fact presents essential complications as regards the estab shment of the responsible Government in India It is clear that it is not possible for the Crown to transfer its r ght under a treaty without the consent of the Native States

This view was also stressed by Sir Leslie Scott and his colleagues in their joint opinion before the Butler Committee The Butler Committee has opined that

> we agree that the relationship of the States with the Paramount Power is a relat onship with the Crown that the treaties are continuing and b nding force between the State wh ch made them and the Crown (para 39) It has further remarked in paragraph 58 We feel bound to draw attention to the really grave apprehension of the Princes on this score and to record our strong opinion that in view of the historical nature of the relation ship of the Paramount Power and the Princes the latter should not be transferred without their own agreement to relationship with a new Government

Although it is argued that the proposed legislation affects very small States who are not full powered States yet the communique dated 16th April 1943 is so worded that the general principles enuncia ted therein without further qualifications or limitation could be extended almost to any State big or small Above all the proposed legislation militates against the inherent Sovereignty and autonomy of all the States inasmuch as it violates a very clear principle which has been scrupulously adhered to so far, that the British Parliament cannot legislate for Indian States It is therefore a matter which vitally affects the Princely Order as a whole and it is hoped that the Parliament will not pass such an important legislation in a hurry without having heard and considered all the grave implications of such a measure, which is against the declared policy and practice so far maintained respected and recognised through the solemn pronouncements made from time to time by the august personalities of the British Sovereigns themselves

Moreover as very rightly observed by some of Their Lordships during the discus sion of the Bill in the House of Lords it is a very vicious procedure to hasten to the aid of the Legislature for avoiding the decrees of the lawfully constituted Judicial tribunals Such a method is bound to adversely affect the prestige and minimise the usefulness of the Judiciary as in every case when the Government is dissatisfied with the dictum of the Court, it would always find it easier to run to the Legislature and to remedy the defects of existing law with retrospective effect with the ready support of an established majority The proper course in such cases should be to approach Their Lordships of the Privy Council and any diffidence on the part of the Government to obtain a ruling from the highest Court of appeal in the Empire should be attributed to the desire of the Executive to side track the regular course of justice and to resort to Parliament

to legalise their illegal actions, which had no sanction of the existing law. It is hoped that the Parliament would not allow the passage of such a legislation as it would amount to a clear violation and departure from the established principles and policy of the British Government and would also be against the traditions of that historic British Institution, which has for many generations now, stood for truth, justice and fair-play for all the Citizens of the Empire.

INDIAN SCIENCES ABROAD

BY MR. SHYAM CHAND NEGI

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THAT India is the world's *alma mater* is the verdict of distinguished foreigners. Take Leon Delbos whose words "Go to America and you find there, as in Europe, the influence of the great civilisation" underline it. The antiquity of Indian civilisation is far remoter than those of the extinct and the extant But outsiders drew from its unlimited reservoir of knowledge and made scholastic sojourns fairly late and roughly from the days of the well renowned Taxila University in the sixth century B C. Adhering to the theme, we shall try to illustrate how much the world owes to India in science which is one of the phases of its vast and variegated achievement. Chronology reveals glaringly that to this day there is scarcely a civilisation which has not derived scientific knowledge from India and that it comes down linked without a gap.

CHINA

Chine gained from India not only spiritually, but also materially. As one from the East to-day would rush to Europe to combat a serious disease, even so did outsiders repair to India. Disappointed in his own country, a Chinese Prince flew to Taxila for the treatment of an acute trouble in the eyes and returned fully cured. Graduates of the Nalanda University served the Chinese Government on the Astronomical Board, sometimes as President, in the seventh century A.D. and thereafter.

GREECE

Hellenes, ancient Greeks, were the first people to wake up in Europe. Peacock's 'India in Greece' discloses how much Lord Byron's (1788-1822) 'The Isles of Greece' owed to this country. They borrowed mathematics and Ayurveda medicine. Dr. Thibaut says that the world is indebted to India, not to Greece, for the knowledge of geometry. Awe overtook him when he found that the Theorem of Pythagoras had been enunciated in the Sulva Sutras long before Pythagoras (ca. 582-500 B C.). Dr. Macdonnel holds that Pythagoras learnt mathematics from India. Hippocrates (ca. 460 377 B C.), the father of European medicine, reflects the tinge of Ayurveda. Alexander (326 B.C.) the Great availed himself of Indian physicians. Nearchus, who accompanied him in his Indian campaign and stayed in India till 325 B.C., states that the Greeks were ignorant of the remedy of snake-bite, whereas the Indians knew it well. Theopurasbs (3rd century B C.) came to India to learn medicine. Dr. Royle says that Dioscorodes (1st century A.D) took too much from Indian materia medica.

EGYPT

The Hellenic splendour waned and collapsed. But it found its way into Egypt. After Alexander's conquest of it numerous Greek scholars migrated and settled there and there rose the famous Alexandrian Library. Egypt s h o n e. The Egyptians swelled their lore and accelerated their progress with Indian sciences. Through Asoka's (3rd century B.C.) missionaries the Sthivirputtas with whose name originated the term therapeutics—Ayurveda reached Egypt. Aetius (395-454) of Alexandria was thoroughly conversant with it. In the third century A.D. Egyptians transplanted Indian arithmetic in Alexandria through the traders of Ujjain.

ROME AND SYRIA

Egypt sank but it had diffused Indian sciences into Rome and Syria By the sixth century A D Indian mathematics and subtle discoveries of Indian astronomy made a considerable impression upon the Syrians the Jews

ARABIA

With the rise of Islam came the Arabs turn to bear the torch Syria had already acquainted them with Indian genius But the credit goes mainly to the Caliphs Almansur (753 774) and Harun Al Rashid (780 808) They were ardent lovers and patrons of learning and the learned There were Indian scholars in their courts at Baghdad There was Karka in Almansur s There were Chanakya and Manak at Harun s Arab scholars were ceaselessly absorbed in producing original works and translating so many from Sanskrit Karka had with him an astronomical work called Brihat Sin Hind which was probably the celebrated Indian astronomer Varahamihira s (505 587) Vrihat Samhita Sachau mentions in his Alberuni s India that the Arabs learnt the scientific system of astronomy from Brahma Gupta (7th century A D) through Almansur and earlier than from Ptolemy So deep rooted was the influence that for centuries the Arabs reckoned their longitudes from Ujjain the Greenwich of India Besides astronomy the Arabs picked up mathematics from India Havell remarks that they got their numericals (Hindse) and decimal notation from India In the eighth century A D Mohammad Ibn Musa wrote the first Arabic algebra which was extracted from Indian astronomical works About the seventh century A D they learnt physics from India The great Chinese traveller Huen Tsang (7th century A D) who visited India records that physics was taught in the University of Nalanda On the medical side the Arabs acquired a good deal from India through the Indian physicians Chanakya and Manak with whose help Harun had Charak Susbruta which is an excellent surgical treatise etc. rendered into Arabic Also they received chemistry from India A Saracen in Spain was familiar with Indian chemistry Moreover an Arabic work Talif Sariq reflects it by stating that the Indians knew the use of white oxide of arsenic whereas the Greeks were ignorant of it

With the march of time the Arabs could not stem the adverse tide of time Internecine troubles and bitter hostility between Muslims and Christians culminating in crusades and holy wars swept away the Arabs glory

EUROPE AND AMERICA

The Arabs glare vanished But as the Crescent and Star flew from the Black Sea to the Bay of Biscay they had imparted knowledge and culture to Europe through several Universities *e g* Cardova in Spain Later on Europe slipped into thick oblivion Ignorance and superstition reigned supreme for long This interlude is popularly known in history as the Dark Ages The church dominated every sphere of life Science was persecuted savagely because it was supposed to run counter to the Word of God Those who indulged in or raised their heads for science had to undergo a severe ordeal Galileo had to kneel before His Serenity the Doge of Venice Bruno had to embrace the stake On the whole conditions were nebulous in Europe Still in that period of chaos and darkness they made access to Indian sciences possible through the Arabs and subsequently

Leonardo (1202) of Pisa carried Indian mathematics to Europe Upto the seventeenth century Europe s medical system was based on the Arabic one which itself was an offspring of Ayurveda It was Paracelsus (1795 1541) who started medicinal use of mercury in Europe He too according to Dr P C Ray derived his knowledge from the East The Medical Congress held in 1891 unable to suggest any remedy for cholera hydrophobia etc treated the people of India with learned discourses of the methods of avoiding them Even part of surgery was taken from India Hunter writes in the *Imperial Gazetteer of India* that it was from India that the English rhinoplastied in the eighteenth century The astronomer King Sawai Maharajah Jai Singh II (1699 1788) of Jaipur was greatly esteemed in Europe He revised Labire s Tabule Astronomicae published in 1702

We arrive at India under the British Little has been done by this Government

to encourage and foster education in this country. With this point in view, on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee Session of the Indian Science Congress held at Calcutta in 1938, the noted journalist, late Ramanand Chatterji, grieved over India's insufficient progress in science. However fettered, India has produced so many scientists of international reputation.

It began with mathematics. Professor Ram Chandra (1821 1880) won the admiration of European mathematicians through his monumental work 'The Problem of Maxima and Minima'. There is the meteoric prodigy Ramanujan (1887 1920), India's first F.R.S., about whom Professor Hardy, F.R.S., remarked that this genius even dreamt of such problems that the finest mathematicians of Europe could not solve fully in a hundred years. In 1935, Sir S. M. Sulaiman presented a new 'Mathematical Theory of Relativity' pointing out some defects in Professor Einstein's. The solar eclipse of the following year proved Sir Sulaiman's contention. In Botany the names of Sir J. C. Bose (1858 1939), F.R.S., Dr. Birbal Sahni, F.R.S., and Dr. B. N. Singh stand out prominently. Dr. Bose not only discovered wireless earlier than Marconi, but also established ancient India's truth that life in plants is quite analogous to the animal one by his unparallelled researches in plant physiology. His Research Institute was the Mecca of the scientists of the world, *e.g.*, Dr. Voronoff who came out to see it. Dr. Sahni has been one of the Vice-Presidents of the Palaeobotany sections of the International Botanical Congresses held at Cambridge (1930) and Amsterdam (1935). Dr. Singh's superiority has been acknowledged by a scientist like Dr. Crew of the Edinburgh University. Dr. Crowther, Plant Physiologist to the Sudan Government, which deputed him especially to study Dr. Singh's work, eulogised him in the words, "It has given me the greatest pleasure at least to see really some good work done on my travels". Physicists, like Sir C. V. Raman, F.R.S., N.L., and Dr. M. N. Saha, F.R.S., are the pride of the world. Sir Raman was conferred the highest honour of Nobel Prize in 1931 for his invaluable researches known as the 'Raman Effect'. To Dr. Saha the astronomical world is greatly indebted. Sir James Jeans, F.R.S., who is one of the greatest living scientists of the world, while presiding over the Silver Jubilee Session of the Indian Science Congress, paid glowing tributes to Dr. Saha that he was the first to give the clear understanding of the meaning of stellar spectra and thus opened the road to vast new astronomical knowledge. And almost all astronomical observatories of the world work upon the basis of his 'Theory of Ionisation'. Of the chemists, there are Dr. P. C. Ray, Dr. P. S. Khankhoje and Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, F.R.S. About Dr. Ray, Sir A. Pedlar says that his discovery of mercurous nitrite has filled the blank in mercury series. So the world owes him the unbroken study of this series. Dr. Khankhoje, a great agricultural chemist, is an Indian exile in Mexico. There he is the Director of the Government's Agriculture Department. He has participated in International Agricultural Conferences with great honours. Sir Bhatnagar has contributed immensely to modern chemistry through his researches in magneto-chemistry and colloids and emulsions and their applications. In the field of meteorology, B. N. Banerji, F.R. Meteoro. S. (Lond.), is a member from India on "Commission de l'application de la Meteorologie ala Navigation Aerinne" of France due to his unique researches in aviation meteorology. In 1937 an Indian physician cured Stalin. Thereupon an institute for medicinal herbs was set up in Leningrad. It may be said to sponsor the advocacy of Ayurveda by Dr. G. Clarke, of California, who says "Follow only Charaka and there will be less work for doctors and fewer chronic invalids in the world". Quite recently the U.S.A. Government appointed an Indian scientist in its war productions section. The name of Dr. Homi Babha, F.R.S., is fresh in the minds of those of the scientific world, and of lovers of science.

This is the substance of a vast subject which deserves a separate volume for its adequate treatment.

TREK BACK FROM BURMA

By "POLITICUS"

THE talented author of this book* is an Australian journalist who reported for the *Sydney Telegraph* and also for the *London Daily Express*, the tragic story of the fall of Malaya Singapore and Burma Very often at the risk of his life he travelled from place to place and spared no effort to watch the progress of the campaign in those places, mixed himself freely with the troops and thus acquainted himself with the truth of the situation The book is really a searchlight on the faults of the campaign, which was "full of distrust of friends and utter panic, demoralisation and disorganisation following the evacuation of Rangoon". The author has no doubt that the terrible tragedy was due to the British authorities who miscalculated the strength of the enemy estranged the people among whom they ruled and were caught napping all round

"Perhaps our greatest defeat in the Burma campaign was our failure to mobilise Burmese public opinion against the Japanese We were most careful not to allow a breath of anti Japanese propaganda before the Pacific War started Burmans were almost encouraged to look on the Japanese as our friends—and because Chinese propaganda was prohibited the inference was that the Chinese were not our friends Burmans and Indians saw Japanese ships in Rangoon harbour till within a few days of the outbreak of war being loaded with zinc, tin, wolfram and lead Even after hostilities started no intelligent propaganda was handed out to the Burmans".

Here is another trenchant criticism

"British civilian authority in Burma was too prone to divide people into a pro or anti British category'

According to him, there was a "surprisingly large proportion of the population in Burma who hated the Japanese and who were quite willing to co operate with Britain and the Uni nations to get the Japanese out". But the British bureaucracy there would not avail themselves of the co operation of the Burmans Mr Burchett avers that if the British had in due time promised independence to Burma, they could easily have had the Burmans helping them heart and soul in the fight against the Japanese

Says the author "Many of the Anglo Indians and Anglo Burmans had then excellent jobs in Burma, staying at their posts when pucca Europeans who should have had a higher sense of duty and responsibility, skipped off to save their white skins

The author escaped from Burma to Calcutta and afterwards took a trip to Simla where he met Sir Reginald Dorran Smith, late Governor of Burma Here is the report of a conversation with him

What is going to be Burma's status after we have retaken the place" was the first question I asked him

'That has nothing to do with us of course That's a question to be settled by His Majesty's Government"

"I take it we don't expect the Burmans are going to welcome us with open arms May be they want the Japs out, but wanting them out and wanting us back are two different things Wouldn't it help your case and the army's too, if we had something to offer the Burmans?"

"I agree with you indeed We'd be in a vastly stronger position if one definite promise was made—some goal regarding Burma's status something which will be attained by the Burmans within a stipulated time limit I very much hope some such statement will be made by HMG in the near future".

"What is your approach to this problem of reconstruction?'

"We realise we have made a hash of things in Burma Not just within these past months, but over a period of years We've done a bad job, and we want to correct that Burma suffered through being a member of the British Common wealth of Nations in that she has been through a particularly horrible war and

*TREK BACK FROM BURMA By Mr W G Burchett, Kitabistan, Allahabad

been allowed to fall into Japanese hands. We have to make that up to her, and so arrange things in Burma, that the Burmans themselves will want to remain members of the British Commonwealth of Nations".

Mr. Burchett has paid a glowing tribute to our troops who fought in Burma under conditions of terrible disadvantage. Here is his testimony to their courage and valour·

"The Japs at least had no monopoly of courage last time. Our British and Indian troops had every reason to suffer from lowered morale. With no air support, ill-trained, ill fed, no proper medical care, always retreating, usually outnumbered, outfought, fighting without hope of relief, there was never a question of them shirking an engagement". He adds.

Their courage deserved better equipment, better support, above all better organization . . The soldiers never once let us down . Unfortunately, other things were not equal and so the side with the highest morale did not win

Curiously enough, this is also the verdict of Lord Wavell·

I saw the Indian soldier in disaster and retreat. My impression of him was this He was often bewildered and at a loss in strange and alarming conditions for which his training provided no solution. But he did not lose his discipline or soldierly bearing and seldom broke into panic. On many occasions he has put up a magnificent fight against heavy odds.

Circumstances compelled me to commit troops with little or no training in jungle craft to some of the most difficult country that could be imagined and to a long and strenuous line of communications in the hope that if all went well we might catch the enemy off the guard and gain by land a strategical objective which would have been more easily reached, had shipping resources been available. At one moment we were probably not far from success. That these inexperienced troops were eventually outmanoeuvred by a seasoned Japanese division with the advantage of better communications, and that they became somewhat disheartened in the process cannot be held to discredit the Indian army. I set a small party of it a task beyond their training and capacity. The main responsibility for the failure is mine. But when the effect on the other side becomes known, it will certainly not be found wholly to our disadvantage.

I am certain that when the time comes for a real sustained counter-offensive against Japan, the Indian soldier will not be found wanting

The author has no doubt that "our greatest defeat in the Burma campaign was our failure to mobilise Burmese public opinion against the Japanese".

The book is full of warnings and lessons to be derived from the tragic story of the fall of Burma.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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THE POST-WAR DEPRESSION or the way out By B N Shenoy. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

POST-WAR RECONSTUCTION OF LIBRARIES IN INDIA. By S R Ranganathan Forman Christian College Library, Lahore.

TWO LECTURES ON AN AESTHETIC OF LITERATURE. By B S. Marddhekar, Karnataka Publishing House, Bombay, 2.

FOOD AND FARMING IN POST WAR EUROPE. By P. L. Yates and D. Warriner, Oxford University Press, Madras

INDIA—A Bird's Eye View. By Sir Frederick Whyte, K C S.I. Oxford University Press, Madras.

BRITAIN AND CANADA. By Gerald S. Graham, Longmans Green & Co., Madras

DISTRIBUTION OF LEGISLATIVE POWER IN THE FUTURE INDIAN FEDERATION. By M. Ramaswamy. Foreword by Rt. Hon. Viscount Sankey. Longmans Green & Co., Ltd , Madras.

ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL LIFE IN BARODA OR BHAGYANAGAR RAJ. By Desabandhu M. Sankar Linga Gowda, Nagamangala Post, Mysore State. Rs. 10.

WARNING TO THE WEST By Shridharani. Duell, Sloan and Pearce 270, Madison Avenue, New York, U S A.

SANKARA AND DAYANAND By Har Bilas Sarda, Ajmer. 12 as.

TARIFFS AND INDUSTRY. By Dr. John Matthai. (Oxford Pamphlet on Indian Affairs), Oxford University Press.

THE PROBLEM OF POPULATION. By Gyan Chand, Oxford Pamphlets on Indian Affairs, Oxford University Press.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES AND THEIR ROLE IN NATIONAL ECONOMY. By Prof. R. V. Rao. M.A., B.T., Vora & Co., Publishers, Ltd , Bombay.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

KASTURBA GANDHI By Miss Dhan Chandra Free India Publications Lahore

Kasturba was not a picturesque personality with gifts of eloquence or leadership like Sarojini Devi or Annie Besant but even if she had these gifts they would be overshadowed by those of her great husband Like the true Hindu wife she was content to identify herself completely in her husband's activities rather than seek a career of her own

Miss Chandra has therefore done well to give a brief but vivid picture of Kasturba's home life A few outstanding incidents in that epic of suffering and self sacrifice are narrated in a simple and attractive style

She has very appropriately included Devadas's moving account of the last moments of his mother's life at the Aga Khan Palace and relevant extracts from Gandhi's reminiscences

FAMINE OVER BENGAL By T G Narayan With a Foreword by Vijayalakshmi Pandit The Book Company Ltd Calcutta Rs 3 4

Golden Bengal has been in the grip of a famine the like of which she has not known for centuries past Mr Narayan who travelled in the worst afflicted areas of the Province on behalf of the *Hindu* tells the story of Bengal's agony as he saw it He describes in some detail the economic and political background and the events which led up to the food crisis It is a painful story of all round incompetence on the part of the administration The acute stage is now over but as Pandit Vijayalakshmi says in her Foreword the problems which led to the famine remain unsolved Until these problems are satisfactorily dealt with so long will Bengal in fact the whole of India continue in travail"

THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM Oxford Pamphlets on Indian Affairs No 15 Double Pamphlet Humphrey Milford Oxford University Press As 12

In the refashioning of the education of the future in India it is essential to bear in mind that it should be a crusade on a nation wide basis which would sweep away alike the people's indifference and the administrators hesitations and timidity And the pamphlet under review makes some invaluable suggestions in indicating the mode and manner of approach to the many intricate problems that confront the State in the sphere of education After a brief but brilliant historical survey of education in India before the advent of the East India Company down to our own day the compelling need for compulsory free national education is emphasised almost in the first essay which points out the tremendous progress made in the countries like England U S A Russia Turkey China and Japan in the field of education It also enforces in an unmistakable manner the supreme duty which devolves upon the State for the education of its human capital It is vital to recognise that political freedom is a pre requisite for such radical innovations in education A preference is indicated for the Wardha Scheme of Basic Education outlined by Gandhiji in 1937 and it is recommended for general adoption

In the succeeding essays dealing with Secondary Education University Adult Education and Technical Education we get valuable details and schemes for re organisation which go to the very heart of the problem

LONDON CALLING THE WORLD By Frank Singleton Longmans Green & Co

This fine illustrated brochure contains a clear and concise account of the working of the B B C —the great nerve centre of the world's news Every stage in that big complicated process from the gathering of news from the ends of the earth to its world wide distribution is described in detail

SELECTIONS FROM SWAMI VIVEKANANDA. Advaita Ashrama, Mayavati, Almora. Rs 6. (*Available of* G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras)

Though the fame of India's gold had attracted many foreigners and adventurers to this country, it was left to Swami Vivekananda to make known to the West the more important heritage of her spiritual wisdom. His great speech at the Parliament of Religions at Chicago, fifty-one years ago, marked an epoch in the relations between East and West and paved the way to a proper appreciation of the treasures of Indian thought. Since then, down to the last day of his death, the Swamiji continued to fill the world with the flood of his eloquence uninterruptedly. Thanks to the diligence and devotion of his disciples and admirers a great mass of this literature in the shape of talks, lectures, messages, articles, letters and interviews, has been collected and published from time to time. These naturally run into many thousand pages and are not always accessible to the lay public. The Advaita Ashrama has done well to give a copious selection from these volumes—a collection reflecting the Swamiji's thoughts on a variety of topics. For it must be remembered that Swamiji was a myriad minded man and his interests were encyclopaedic And in the volume under review, we have the cream of the Swamiji's thoughts and views on many things, spiritual and mundane, culled from his speeches and writings. How close to present-day ideas were the Swamiji's thoughts may be gathered from his reply to a question as to why he should have thought of stirring Europe and America instead of preaching in his own country. Swamiji replied.

> Now understand what religion means The first thing required is the worship of the kurma (tortoise) Incarnation, and the belly god is this Kurma, as it were. Until you pacify this, no one will welcome your words about religion. India is restless with the thought of how to face this spectre of hunger. The drainage of the best resources of the country by the foreigners, the unrestricted exports of merchandise, and above all, the jealousy natural to slaves, are eating into the very bones and marrow of India first of all, you must remove this evil of hunger and starvation, this constant thought for bare existence, from those to whom you want to preach religion; otherwise lectures and such things will be of no benefit.

BHASHA-PARICCHEDA WITH SIDDHANTA-MUKTAVALI. By Visvanatha Nyaya-panchanana. Translated by Swami Madhavananda. Advaita Ashrama, Mayavati. Rs. 2 8.

Next to Annambhatta's *Tarkasangraha*, Visvanatha's *Bhasha-pariccheda* is the most popular manual of Nyaya philosophy. The author himself has written a gloss called the *Siddhanta muktavali*. Visvanatha, who flourished till the early part of the seventeenth century A.D, belonged to the Nuddea school of Navya-nyaya; and, like Annambhatta, he synthesised the Nyaya theory of pramanas, with the Vaiseshika scheme of padarthas. It was Gangesa that laid the foundations of Navya-nyaya by turning the Nyaya system which had till then remained a mere padartha-sastra into a thorough going pramana-sastra. Visvanatha, following in his footsteps, presents Neologic in an easy and lucid style.

The work under review contains the text of the *Bhasha pariccheda* with an English translation of the text and its gloss the *Siddhanta muktavali*. Swami Madhavananda's translation is simple and faithful.

MEGHADUTA IN ENGLISH VERSE. By D. C. Datta, M.A., Professor of English, Jaipur. Published by the Garg Book Company, Jaipur City.

Professor Datta has made a most commendable attempt at rendering into easy-flowing English verse the famous Sanskrit Lyric Poem, Meghadota,—the Cloud Messenger carrying in its flight across the vast expanse of sky and air, from Ramgiri in Central India to Alaka in the Himalayas, the passionate message of Love and Hope from a love-sick languishing Yaksha to his beloved wife from whom he has been separated by the King's decree for a period of one year. Along that gossamer thread of story the poet strings beautiful *flowers—verses* exquisitely descriptive of Nature and Art: thought and diction mingling in a *glorious composition* which in the original Sanskrit reaches the high water mark of Indian poetic phantasy. Professor Datta's rendering makes a very pleasing reading.

GANDHIJI'S RELEASE AND AFTER

THE release of Mahatma Gandhi, though "solely on medical grounds," as the Government *communique* has stressed with rather unnecessary emphasis will, it is hoped, prove to be the first step towards a possible political settlement But the immediate concern of the public is Mahatmaji's complete recovery An anxious nation is watching his progress to recovery. As in health, so during his illness the eyes of many are turned to him, for great things are expected from him once he is well again

It will be recalled that Gandhiji with other members of the Congress Working Committee was arrested on August 9 1942 following the meeting of the A I C C On February 10, 1943, he started a 21 days' fast when appeals to the British Government for the release of Gandhi had gone forth from all parts of the world in vain One of the results of Government's obstinacy was the resignation from the Viceroy's Executive Council of the three Members, Sir Homy Mody, Mr N R Sarker and Mr M S Aney Since then the efforts of what is known as the Sapru Conference and numerous other influential bodies both in India and abroad, failed to obtain the release

Twenty one months after his detention in the Aga Khan Palace, *i e* at midnight on Friday, the 5th of May, a Government of India *communique* announced that "in view of the medical reports on Gandhiji's health, it was decided to release him unconditionally". "This decision," it added, "has been taken solely on medical grounds The release takes place at 8 A M. on May 6"

In fact, a Press note issued by the Bombay Government, about the middle of April, to the effect that Gandhiji had been suffering from Malaria for three days and that his general condition was weak had caused considerable anxiety. Subsequently the Surgeon General's report that his condition was satisfactory could by no means allay public concern for the life of one who at his great age of 75, had passed through severe mental and physical strain Although his iron will and religious discipline had made him proof against the depressing effects of calamities, still his recent bereavements caused by the death of such near and dear ones as Mahadev Desai and Kasturba could hardly fail to make their mark even on that constitution

Gandhiji's old friend Dr B C Roy who then examined him reported that the improvement noticed by the Surgeon General had not been maintained Further deterioration having been noticed, Government decided to release him forthwith It would appear that the Viceroy who was in communication with Whitehall was solely responsible for this decision, as none of the members of the Executive Council, most of whom were touring in different parts of the country, seemed to be aware of this wise though belated step to restore Gandhiji's freedom At any rate the Viceroy's prompt action relieved the government of a very heavy responsibility

Gandhiji, with his Private Secretary Mr Pyarelal his physicians Dr Gilder and Dr Sushila Nayar and his disciple Mira Ben, were d r i v e n straight to Parnakuti", Lady Premleela Thackersey's residence by Lt Col M G Bhandari, Inspector General of Prisons Lady Thackersey, the hostess and Mr Nagindas Master Mayor of Bombay, received him at "Parnakuti" while his many followers assembled there touched his feet and expressed their sense of relief at his release Meanwhile thousands of telegrams and messages poured in at "Parnakuti" Friends and f e l l o w w o r k e r s like Mrs Sarojini stood guard at his chambers to ensure perfect rest and freedom from the strain of public and private interviews

Gandhiji was steadily recovering under careful and affectionate nursing and the best possible medical aid But to a sensitive spirit like Gandhiji's freedom itself is an undoubted tonic for mind and body, and within a week he was rallying quickly enough to be taken to a sea side resort in Juhu near Bombay, where he is convalescing in a bangalow in the estate of Mr Shanti Kumar Morarji An endless stream of visitors from all over the suburbs and the city are to be seen night and day, opposite to the bangalow. But Mrs Sarojini, who with her da [illegible]nd

Vijayalakshmi Pandit has taken up her residence in a shack next to Mr. Gandhiji's is proving a firm gate-keeper. Regardless of rank or position of the visitors she turns them back, saying "You will be showing your regard and love for Mahatmaji by not, rather than by seeing him." The fact is Gandhiji is still ill and needs as much rest as possible. And that is why he has, under medical advice, decided to prolong his stay at Juhu.

Characteristically enough the Mahatma did not wait for complete recovery to visit the scene of the fire disaster. Accompanied by Mr. Nagindas T. Master, Mayor of Bombay, he went round the affected areas where demolition and clearance of debris work are still in progress.

Speculations on the possible reaction of Gandhiji's release on the political situation are bound to be rife. Commenting on it, the *Glasgow Forward*, the leading Socialist weekly, voicing the typical liberal opinion all the world over hopes that this begins the reversal of Britain's policy towards India. It asserts that Pandit Nehru and other Congressmen must be released forthwith before any real steps can be taken to satisfy Indian national opinion and the world which looked at Britain's treatment of India with bewilderment and reproach.

> The first step in making ourselves right with India and the world is to open the gates of jails and concentration camps and liberate people whose only crime was that they asked that the principles of the Atlantic Charter shall be applied with regard to India also. British Labour should do everything within its power to bring pressure upon the Government to completely change its policy towards India

In this connection, Mr. Amery's evasive answers to questions in Parliament are at once amusing and inept. A Labour Member asked, "If Mr. Gandhi does recover, the Secretary of State will not consider putting him back again." Mr. Amery replied that "that will be considered when the occasion arises." It would be the height of folly if the Secretary of State can even contemplate such a contingency. For in releasing him, at any rate now, Government have done a wise thing which they will be undoing if Gandhiji, on recovery, is sent back to detention. For after all he is the one man in India, who will be able to bring to bear his great moral influence on the people at large for peace and goodwill. From all we know of him, we have no doubt that if the authorities approach him in the proper spirit he will respond with courage and determination to save the country from the Japanese menace, not to speak of the Nazi tyranny which he has more than once denounced.

Now, as the *Manchester Guardian* truly points out,

> whatever else Gandhi is or is not, he certainly is the friend, the champion of human liberty. There is then hope that he may yet be our ally. His alliance would be worth securing. For this is a war in which personality counts and old or young, ill or well, Gandhi is by far the most powerful personality in India.

For his part Gandhiji, though by no means yet free from ailment, is unsparing in his efforts to obtain knowledge of the true condition of affairs in the country with a view to re-examine the situation. This is evident from the fact revealed by his secretary, Mr. Pyarelal, that he has been asked to collect facts and opinions from all available sources.

Gandhiji, it would appear, has taken Government's declarations about his release at their face value. He realises that his release is only temporary and has no political significance, as was said in the House of Commons. It was in view of this that the Mahatma expressed inability to respond to the *News Chronicle's* request for a statement. Says Mr. Pyarelal in a communication to the press dated 24th May:

> Mr. *Forman Cliff, Foreign Editor of the News Chronicle*, had sent me the following cable dated May 9, to Poona. "English friends rejoice and hope Gandhiji will renew his strength. Grateful receive our account of events in detention and any statement Gandhiji has made. Glad to have any indication his hopes for future and any message for friends. Arrangements made for 500 words reply pre paid."
>
> Gandhiji's instructions to me being that no message was to be sent unless assurance can be received from the authorities concerned that any message that might be sent would be transmitted without mutilation. I wrote to the authorities mentioning the instructions I had from Gandhiji and enquiring whether such an assurance can be given As their *reply was in the negative*, I cabled back to the *News Chronicle* regretting my inability to comply with their request as no assurance could be given by the authorities about non-mutilation of messages.

Of course, Gandhiji appreciated the difficulties of the authorities, but no mutilated message can do justice to the cause.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Gandhiji's letter to Mr. Jinnah

IN a *communique* dated May 26, 1943, the Government of India said they were not prepared to forward Mr Gandhi's letter to Mr Jinnah and had so informed Mr Gandhi and Jinnah. They added they could not give facilities for political correspondence or contact to persons detained for promoting an illegal mass movement

Mr Jinnah, in a statement on May 28, reacted to it in an extraordinary way He said the letter indicated no change in Mr Gandhi's policy He declared

This letter of Mr Gandhi can be construed only as a move on his part to embroil the Muslim League to come into a clash with the British Government solely for the purpose of helping his release, so that he would be free to do what he pleases thereafter

This was his strange comment on the intercepted letter the contents of which he could have *no* means of knowing

Now that the Mahatma is free his Private Secretary Mr Pyarelal has released the letter to the press in response to the suggestion from Mr Jinnah's paper *Dawn* The text of the letter is as follows

Detention Camp, May 4, 1943

Dear Quade Azam

When sometime after my incarceration Government asked me for a list of newspapers I would like to have I included the "Dawn" in my list I have been receiving it with more or less regularity Whenever it comes to me I read it carefully I have followed the proceedings of the League as reported in the "Dawn" columns I noted your invitation to me to write to you Hence this letter

I welcome your invitation I suggest our meeting face to face rather than talking through correspondence but I am in your hands

I hope that this letter will be sent to you and, if you agree to my proposal that the Government will let you visit me

One thing I had better mention There seems to be an IF' about your invitation Do you say I should write only if I have changed my heart?

God alone knows Men's Hearts

I would like you to take me as I am

Why should not both you and I approach the great question of Communal Unity as men determined on finding a common solution and work together to make our solution acceptable to all who are concerned with it or are interested in it?

Yours sincerely,

(Sd) M K GANDHI

Surely this friendly invitation could not be a move on the part of Gandhi "to embroil the Muslim League to come into a clash with the British Government"!

Nationalist Muslims in Conference

While the Muslim League has become a powerful organisation with a large following, there is no doubt that a considerable section of Muslim opinion is not only beyond the orbit of the League's influence, but definitely against its policy and programme. But the League being more noisy, it is made to appear as if it is the only or the main spokesman of the community. The recent Conference of Nationalist Muslims in Delhi, representing the Azad Muslims, Ahrars Kudai Khidmatgars, Momins and many others, made it clear that a growing volume of Muslim opinion is distinctly against the anti national and disruptive propaganda of the Pakistanists It shows that Muslim India is essentially Indian at heart and is in no mood to tolerate the blatant communalism or the reactionary tactics of the League The resolutions passed by the Delhi Conference are unmistakably in harmony with progressive political thought in the country The Nationalist Muslims

unequivocally declared themselves against Pakistan as detrimental to the country and our advice is that Muslims should not want Pakistan but should let India remain a united country for all time to come That is the fundamental difference between us and the League

Their programme for intercommunal settlement accordingly revolves round this fundamental faith in the geographical unity of India Their demand for a national government not as a political issue but as a strategic military necessity will, it is hoped, be widely appreciated!

The Nationalist Muslims have thus a clear cut programme inspired by the loftiest motives and it is up to them to see that the voice of reason is not drowned by the more clamorous cry of reactionary communalism For the League's unsound tactics have but served the Government with an excuse for withholding freedom for the country on the score of disagreement among the communities

The Judiciary and the Executive in India

Addressing the East India Association, London, Sir John Beaumont, the former Chief Justice of Bombay, described the Federal Court as "an expensive luxury". *But considering* the interests of the clients, the Privy Council in England, which he prefers, is by no means less expensive, and then the experience in India about that august body in far away England, in matters involving grave political or national issues has not always been happy. In matters relating to the D. I. R, the judgments of the Federal Court have been marked by undoubted judicial wisdom and independence. It is doubtful if better results could have accrued from the Privy Council.

Sir John's suggestions for other reforms in the judicial system in India are in *conformity with the demands reiterated* by the Congress and other public bodies. There can be no two opinions on the need for the separation of the judiciary from the executive. The selection of judges from amongst Government servants, he said,

> is opposed to sound constitutional principles and can only be justified if there is no other suitable field of selection. The bench is the legitimate goal of the Bar's ambition and whenever I have been on tour, the local Bar have always complained of the lack of promotion open to them The Bar in India forms no mean part of the literate community It is influential and extremely vocal and it seems foolish to present it with a legitimate and unnecessary grievance.

Separation of the judiciary *from the* executive was one of the main planks in the Congress party programme and we deplore with him that the Congress ministries lost a splendid opportunity to carry out this much needed reform. Sir John thinks that they abandoned the project in deference to the wishes of the Congress High Command. He is *evidently* led to this conclusion by observing the unanimity with which all Congress governments acted in the same way. It is just possible that the example set by one or more governments in sacrificing principle for expediency led other governments to follow suit. In any case, the failure to tackle the problem of magistracy —so long one of the main items of the Congress demands—was certainly deplorable.

Louis Fischer on Gandhi

The Poona correspondent of a Delhi contemporary reports that the first book that Gandhiji laid his hands on at "Parnakuti", soon after his release, was *A Week with Gandhi* by Louis Fischer. Now Fischer knew his Gandhi well and got into hot waters by his frank and outspoken tributes to his character. He says:

> I think the yearning for India's independence takes precedence in him over everything else, even over his belief in non-violence. At least, he can work on terms of the friendliest co-operation with men like Nehru, Azad, and Rajagopalachari, who he knows are not pacifists, but he could not work with enemies of Indian freedom. In his pursuit of this independence there is a musical harmony between Gandhi and millions of Indians Great leaders must have this harmony; it is the source of their greatness. Winston Churchill has manifested it in many of his speeches. He says brilliantly what so many plain English citizens say crudely to their neighbours or say to themselves at night. You follow a leader who is you in a better edition. Gandhi is father and brother to millions of semi-naked, half starved, not-too intellectual peasants and working men who want to attain dignity and prosperity through national effort. He is a chip of their block He also anwers the prayers of innumerable highly cultured Indians and mighty industrialists who resent the foreign yoke or even the mere presence of an outside overlord.

Bombay Fire Inquiry

Public demand for enquiry into the causes of the Bombay Fire tragedy has been met by the prompt announcement of the terms and personnel of the Commission. But as is usual with Government, they never do even a right thing in the right way. The Commission presided over by the Chief Justice of Bombay will undoubtedly commend itself to the public, but in a matter of such public concern why should not a non-official enjoying the confidence of the public be included? That would undoubtedly have made a difference in the estimation of the public. There is certainly need to know the "causes of the fire and the adequacy of the steps taken before, during and after the disaster" with a view to be profited by the lessons of this tragedy but the need to compensate the loss suffered by the public *is even more* urgent, as the Insurance Companies have declared their helplessness in the matter.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

Britain and Russia

MR EDEN referred to Russia in his speech in the House of Commons on Foreign Affairs debate last month He said

There is no reservation in our minds when we say we wish to work with the Soviet Union in the fullest, closest co-operation But it is also in the interests of our two countries that we should accept that there are certain difficulties in this task and we do not gain much by ignoring them

Mr Eden referred to the mutual suspicion which existed so long ago as the days of Czarist Russia and which has the habit of accumulating Our remedy is that the two people should get to know each other better

Britain's Foreign Policy

Winding up the Commons debate Mr Eden declared that the British Empire was the one really successful experiment in international co operation there had ever been Britain had not on any occasion in the four years of conflict entered into any secret engagement with anybody Referring to Britain s treatment of Neutrals Mr Eden said they had asked for no measure nor taken any step beyond that which was considered to be within their rights according to the terms of their alliance

Dominion Premiers' Declaration

"We affirm that after the war, a world organization to maintain peace and security should be set up and endowed with the necessary power and authority to prevent aggression and violence,' says a Declaration issued at the conclusion of the Dominion Premiers' Conference.

We trust and pray that the victory, which will certainly be won will carry with it a sense of hope and freedom for all the world It is our aim that when the storms and passions of war have passed away all the countries now overrun by the enemy shall be free to decide for themselves their future form of democratic government

Mutual respect and honest conduct between nations is our chief desire We are determined to work with all peace loving peoples in order that tyranny and aggression shall be removed or if need be struck down wherever it raised its head Peoples of the British Empire and Commonwealth of Nations willingly make their sacrifices to the common cause We seek no advantages for ourselves at the cost of others We desire the welfare and social advance of all nations and that they may help each other to better and broader days

Battle for Rome

In Italy the Eighth Army captured the town of Roccasecca and Mount Cairo

Fifth Army troops have captured Cori San Giovanni on the southern edge of the Liri valley has also been captured

Ceprano, Belmonte, Villa San Stefano and Norma have been captured

The Eighth Army took Ceprano The New Zealanders took Belmonte The Allies are nearing Rome

Jap Reverses in Assam and Burma

The Japanese forces on the Burma India front are in an increasingly grave position after a month that has shown Allied supremacy on the ground and in the air on all sectors

Fighting in the Manipur zone has been continuous and intense and the Japanese have suffered heavily as compared with the relatively light Allied losses Desperate attempts to break into the Imphal plain have failed, in spite of the use of some fresh Japanese units

Agreement with Spain

An agreement has been reached between Britain, the United States and Spain.

Spain, which has so far been partial to Germany, has now agreed to drastically cut her wolfram exports to Germany, close the German consulate at Tangier, expel all the Nazi spies and in addition, release some of the Italian merchantships now interned in Spanish waters In return Britain and the United States have agreed to lift the embargo on oil shipments to Spain

Nazi March to Bulgaria

Five German Divisions after meeting resistance at some points are believed to have marched into Bulgaria on May 20, following the resignation of the Bojilov Government according to the newspaper Law Turquie ' German forces were taking over civil administration

Portuguese Foreign Policy

The Foreign Affairs Section of the Congress of Uniao Nacional, the only party in Portugal, has unanimously declared the Anglo Portuguese alliance to be the first basis of Portuguese foreign policy.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

CONGRESS LEADERS IN PRISON

Sir C. Ramalinga Reddi, the Vice-Chancellor of the Andhra University and a Regional Leader of the National War Front, in a statement to the Press, makes some very caustic remarks on the attitude of the authorities in regard to the present situation. Urging the release of all detenus and Congress leaders in prison, Sir Ramalinga points out

> The spirit of vendetta has no place in history Even with the enemy, peace has to be made, and the Congress is not a worse enemy than Germany or Japan. It should not be forgotten that all the elections held in India had gone in favour of the incarcerated Congress and that is why the Madras Government, which notified that elections for certain District Boards would be held, have swallowed their own words at a quick gulp when they learned that Congress and pro Congress candidates would contest, and they fell back on nominated boards.

True criticism this. It is high time the Government should take note of the signs of the times and take a broad and statesmanlike view of the situation. "The retail releases of the incarcerated members of the Congress or others similarly involved, could not be productive of that change in atmosphere which ought to be brought about. If these retail releases had not done any harm, one might well ask why the Government should apprehend danger from the release of the bigger people who alone were capable of giving a new turn to the internal situation".

"The Atlantic Charter had already turned into Atlantic smoke", says Sir Ramalinga emphatically.

Discussing the various post-war schemes, Sir C. R. Reddi observes:

> People were already beginning to doubt the sincerity and reality of the post war schemes outlined by Government, which they still suspected, were nothing more than shadows reminding them of what the priest craft had been doing in all ages, namely, depriving innocent people of good things of this world under the pretext of another, while promising perfect bliss in Heaven, in the certainty of which they themselves perhaps did never believe! And would the post war reconstruction be nothing more than the paradise of the priest craft—a secular edition of 'take the cash and let the credit go' policy?

EFFECTS OF WAR ON INDIA

Mr. Ernest Hauser, writing from New Delhi to the *Saturday Evening Post* highly praising Indian soldiers, says: "Indian peasants have learned to use machine-guns, mortars, armoured cars and heavy artillery. They have trained parachutists, engineers and experts. Indians of all castes are piloting planes of Indian Air Force the Indian sepoy, unlike the American soldier, is not a citizen of a free nation but an Indian nation can be seen emerging from his sacrifice.

"Training and achievements of this vast army will thus assume a significance far beyond the immediate purpose of military victory. Already the presence in the same camps or positions of people from all parts of India has broken down racial and religious differences which so far had prevented Indian unity. Already Muslims and Hindus, Brahmins and lower castemen have discovered that they are brothers under their skin. They have under the pinch taken the same food, drunk from the same bucket and no thunderbolt smote them as punishment for such unheard of sin.

"In the crucible of this long war an Indian nation may be born. In this army which is larger than any army ever raised in this sub continent. Indian manhood is being put to a decisive test."

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT IN INDIA

The well-known writer on India, Mr. Edward Thompson, in an article to *New Statesman and Nation*, states:

> It is known that Lord Wavell is profoundly impressed by Indian poverty and the necessity of tremendous changes. These can be put through only by the leaders of the nation concerned. Only they have intimate, intricate knowledge and can find a way to overcome hidden as well as overt opposition. If our Home Government were militarily wise in this matter, they would encourage the Viceroy to ask a genuine National Government to take over internal affairs with a guarantee of support in even revolutionary action, such as the tackling of indebtedness which crushes the small man's life A separate War Cabinet as in this country, should give all energies to the campaign

"FAITH IN BRITISH RULE"

Questioning the wisdom of Mr Amery's speech, *The Economist* says that although his remarks had "considerable" justification, the speech shows that the British as well as Indian leaders are "still looking backwards instead of forwards"

The Economist objects to the present policy in India, firstly in regard to defence secondly, in regard to food supply and thirdly, in respect of freeing country for self government

Saying that these aims constitute a policy in themselves, if bygones can be allowed to be bygones the paper suggests that we should look for whatever signs there may be "of new leaders and new attitudes among Indians rather than at misdeeds of old ones It is perfectly true many events of the war years in India have shaken faith in the ability of the Indians to govern themselves properly but, despite the mishandled but most fair Cripps offer, they have shaken faith in British rule no less"

INDIA AND EIRE

Dr K S Shelvankar, author of "Problem of India", writing in the monthly magazine *Irish Freedom*, refers to the Irish gift of £1,00 000 for Indian famine relief Common experience of famine is not the only bond between Indians and the Irish, says Dr Shelvankar, they have common experience of British imperial connection

For at least half a century, the national movement in India has derived strong inspiration from the different phases of the British struggle and in Ireland, poets politicians and thinkers of all types have not only followed happenings in India with sympathy, but have themselves been influenced by the art and philosophy of ancient India

Discussing Ireland's position in relation to the war against Fascism he says

Eire has the good fortune to face this situation under a Government of her own, whereas India's position is different

He emphasises, however, that Indian nationalists do not want isolationism or neutrality

"They want to manage their own internal affairs without foreign interference They want this not as an end in itself but because national freedom alone will enable them to pull their full weight in extricating the world and Asia in particular, from the threat of a dark future

SMALL HOLDINGS

Mr M Ruthnaswamy contributes an article to the *New Review* for May with the heading "The Running Sore of Indian Agriculture" The sore is the small holdings which as peasants or tenants Indian cultivators operate In Bengal the average cultivated holding is 3 1 acres it is the same in Bihar, another Zamindari province In the United Provinces which include the Zamindari division of Oudh, the average holding covers 2 5 acres In the ryotwari provinces, which constitute the major part of the country, the acreage held by the owner cultivator is as follows Madras 4 9 acres, the Central Provinces and Berar 8 5 acres, in the Punjab, 9 3 and in Bombay, 12 2 Mr Ruthnaswamy calls upon Indian statesmen to undertake immediate legislation or administrative action against the evil which, he says, is at once economic and political He writes

It may be that one of the causes of the easy invasion and conquest of India as of Celtic Britain was this custom of compulsory equal partition of landed property It may be, as in France this practice is responsible for the political weakness of India—the lack of a sturdy population equal to the calls of unity and liberty Not only in the interests of economic progress but for the security of Freedom, the pernicious custom of the compulsory and equal partition of landed property must no longer be allowed to hang as a millstone round the neck of the people of India

WORLD BILL OF RIGHTS

"The promulgation of an international bill of rights is 'one proper task for international organization in the post war years,' according to nearly all of 43 co operating groups of college faculties who have reported to the Universities Committee on Post war International Problem" the *Christian Science Monitor* comments editorially.

"While sceptical about 'natural rights,' the groups agree that there are certain 'moral rights' which ought to belong to all individuals, both in practice and in law Moral rights such as freedom of expression and certain kinds of freedom of action or opportunity for development, are so important for human welfare that they should be guaranteed to everyone"

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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May 1. The Conference of British Commonwealth Prime Ministers meets in London.

May 2. New Soviet-Czech Agreement is concluded.

May 3 Spain to expel Axis Agents in N. Africa. Agreement signed with Allies.

May 4. British loan for China is announced by Mr. Eden in the House of Commons.

—Col Cristofini, founder of Vichy African Phalanx, is executed for treason.

May 5. Leaders' appeal to Viceroy to release Gandhiji.

May 6 Mahatma Gandhi is released unconditionally.

—Jap Naval Commander-in Chief Admiral M. Koga is killed in action.

May 7. Jap troops near Loyang—six times capital of China

May 8. The Bombay Disaster inquiry begins at Bombay *in camera*.

—Allied non stop raids on North France.

May 9. German defences in Sebastopol breached.

May 10. Russians capture Sebastopol.

—De Valera seeks fresh mandate—Sequel to defeat in Dail.

May 11. Mr. Gandhi and party arrive in Juhu.

—Germany warns Turkey *re* stoppage of chrome.

May 12 Offensive in Italy by the Eighth and Fifth Armies.

May 13. Nawab Sir Md Jamal Khan Leghori and Major Nawab Aslq Hussain are appointed Ministers to the Punjab Government.

May 14. Allies capture Castel Forte.

—Battle for Loyang—Heavy casualties on both sides.

May 15. Allies take three Jap positions on the outskirts of Kohima.

—Dr. Jivaraj Mehta is released unconditionally.

May 16. Empire Conference concludes.

—Germans evacuate Hill positions south of Cassino.

—Chiang's urgent appeal for allied help.

May 17. Chinese thrust in Yunan—Japs encircled.

—German Consulate at Tangier closed.

May 18. Myitkyina airfield captured by Allies in North Burma.

—Allies take Cassino.

—Street fighting in Loyang.

May 19. Mahatmaji visits scene of Bombay Disaster.

—1,000 Plane raid on Berlin.

—Allies capture Wadke in New Guinea area.

May 20. Jap bases in Marshall Islands bombed.

—Chinese recapture Kioshan.

—Americans capture Gaeta.

May 21. Sir Radhakrishnan returns from China after lecture tour.

—Myitkyina station in allied hands.

May 22. H. E Viceroy extends the life of Legislatures for a further period of one year.

May 23. Germans evacuate Pico.

—Japs reinforce Imphal area.

May 24 Prime Minister Churchill reviews War situation in the Commons.

—Indian War Prisoners escape from France.

—German defences at Anzio in Italy pierced.

May 25 Heavy enemy attacks on Imphal.

—Confusion in Bengal Assembly over the Education Bill.

May 26 Littoria and Cisterna captured by Allies in Italy.

—Mr. Suresh Vaidya is released.

—Germans invade Bulgaria.

May 27. The Chinese capture Warong, north-east of Kaneaing.

—All India Muslim League Committee expels Malik Khizi Hyat Khan, Punjab Premier, from the League.

May 28. The Jap ambassador, General Oghina, sees Hitler.

May 29. Over 1,000 allied planes throw 4,000 tons of bombs over Germany.

May 30. American troops invade Biak near Philippines.

May 31. General election in Ireland.

INDIAN STATES

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Baroda

SIR V T KRISHNAMACHARI

At no stage did Sir V T Krishnamachari resign from the Dewanship of Baroda but asked His Highness for leave preparatory to retirement' says the Private Secretary to His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda who is now in Kashmir, in a communication to the Press The following order of His Highness has been published in the *Baroda State Gazette*

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been pleased to permit Sir V T Krishnamachari to proceed on leave preparatory to retirement from State service Sir V T Krishnamachari had requested His Highness to allow him to be relieved from the office of Dewan and in permitting him to do so His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has realised the need of rest which Sir V T Krishnamachari has so richly earned through long years of distinguished service

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb is pleased to record the sense of overwhelming loss which the termination of his long and distinguished connection with the State has involved the huzur and the people of Baroda Since 1927 Sir V T Krishnamachari has shown unremitting zeal for progress and advancement in all branches of the administration Foremost in all measures of social well being he has shown not only the deepest sympathy towards the people for their needs and aspirations but also displayed unswerving devotion to duty

The achievements and the meritorious services rendered to Baroda and the Princely Order by Sir V T Krishnamachari are too well known for His Highness the Maharaja Saheb to make any detailed reference His Highness the Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes described Sir V T Krishnamachari as a distinguished administrator, far sighted statesman and a true patriot, whose services have won him general admiration and respect

PRAJA MANDAL DEMAND

The two day session of the Baroda Praja Mandal, which met last month, dealt with various problems in the State

By one of the resolutions the conference appointed a committee to organise collections for the Kasturba Memorial Fund About 5 000 people attended the session

The Praja Mandal passed a resolution demanding the immediate holding of fresh elections to the legislature municipalities and local bodies in the State

Another resolution extended full support to the peaceful agitation for Indian independence" and declared unshakable faith in the leadership of Mr Gandhi

Travancore

RISE IN GOVERNMENT SALARIES

A press *communique* issued says that questions relating to the fixation of the salaries of Government servants under present conditions and the need to effect a general revision have been considered by the Government and the following enhanced rates of war allowance have been sanctioned with effect from 1st Makarom 1119

Persons receiving upto Rs 25 per mensem will receive Rs 7 per mensem and an equal amount in cases where salaries are less than Rs 7 per mensem Those whose salary is above Rs 25 and upto Rs 45 will receive Rs 10 per mensem

Officers receiving between Rs 45 and Rs 100 will receive Rs 12 Those drawing above Rs 100 and upto Rs 112 will receive an amount which will raise the total emoluments to Rs 112 per mensem and officers in the scale of Rs 100—5—125, whose pay is not changed in the present revision will receive Rs 12 per mensem

Government have also decided that the minimum salary of peons and menial servants in the capital and other expensive towns should be Rs 14 per mensem, in other urban centres Rs 11 and in the villages Rs 10 The minimum salary in the clerical and the corresponding subordinate ranks should be Rs 25 per mensem

THE TRAVANCORE LOAN

The Travancore State loan of three crores carries interest at 3 per cent free of income tax in Travancore The object of the State Government in floating this loan is to harness accumulating surplus purchasing power for the development of the State's agriculture and industry The Government have planned for the improvement of agriculture by reclamation and intensive cultivation the extension of hydro electric power and the establishment of basic heavy and subsidiary industries These schemes are of vital importance to the economy of the State, and the Government have decided to implement them at a time when money is plentiful and conditions are easy

Of particular interest to the investor is the fact that it is a short to medium dated loan repayable between May 15, 1952 and May 15 1954

Hyderabad

NIZAM ON IMPORTANCE OF ENGLISH

The importance of the English language as a common language in the West and East is stressed by the Nizam in the course of an article in an Urdu daily in Hyderabad.

English, he adds, is spoken and understood in every quarter of the globe. Books on every conceivable art of science can be found in this language. The day is not far off when English will become the common language of the people in the West and the East, he says.

The popularity of basic English, the Nizam adds, is a pointer towards this end.

His Exalted Highness advises his subjects, particularly those belonging to aristocratic families, to shed their narrow-mindedness and learn the English language in order that they may be better able to fulfil their responsibilities.

LABOUR CONDITIONS

With a view to safeguarding the interests of labour in the Nizam's Dominions, various proposals are now under the consideration of H. E. H.'s Government. For the present it has been decided to set up an Advisory Committee for safeguarding labour interests. The membership of this Committee will range between ten and twenty. Half of them will consist of officials and the other half will be composed of an equal number of representatives of capital and labour. Preliminary measures relating to the formation of the Committee have already been taken and it is hoped that the Committee will start functioning very soon.

Bhopal

BHOPAL'S POST-WAR PLAN

A ten-year plan of post-war development, estimated to cost about Rs. 12,00,00,000 and designed to remodel Bhopal State, has been drawn up by the State's Director of Post-War Reconstruction, Mr. Mohsin Ali. Mr. Mohsin Ali is acting under the ægis of the Post-War Reconstruction Board appointed by the Nawab under the chairmanship of Sir Joseph Bhore, Economic Adviser, Bhopal Government.

Mysore

MYSORE'S FINANCES

The administration report of the Government of Mysore for 1942 43, issued recently, reveals the sound financial position of the State. The net income was Rs. 6,38,95,000 and the net expenditure Rs. 6,36,91,000. The total receipts and expenditure under both service and debt heads were Rs. 11,01,54,000 and Rs. 10,85,74,000, respectively, leaving a cash balance of Rs. 2,15,62,000 at the end of the year. Large increases were recorded in the revenue under duty on gold, forests, excise, income-tax and general commercial services.

A noteworthy feature during the year, says a correspondent, was the introduction of rationing in urban areas. Government's compulsory requisition in August last of excess stocks of food grains was a prudent measure as later events testified. The "Grow More Food" campaign resulted in 55,087 additional acres of land being cultivated.

General industrial and commercial conditions also showed a remarkable improvement. Orders from the Supply Department of the Government of India helped the growth of small industries. Cottage industries, such as handloom weaving, also benefited.

The maintenance of stable relations between labour and employers was due largely to the administration of the Labour Act. Government also introduced uniform conditions of service in all their industrial concerns. The ameliorative measures included grant of holidays with pay, sick leave, privilege leave and retiring bonus.

MYSORE BEGGAR BILL

The Mysore Government have constituted a special committee, with the Law Secretary as Chairman, to arrange for the formation of beggar colonies and to take other relief measures so that the Bill prohibiting beggary may be put into effect immediately it is passed. The Bill, which cannot be made operative in an area unless relief measures already exist, is now in the committee stage. A beggar colony is proposed to be set up near Bangalore.

Rewa

AMNESTY TO POLITICALS

The Government of Rewa State having declared a general amnesty in respect of persons arrested and detained under Rule 26 D I R in connection with the Pro Maharaja agitation started in the State in the wake of the suspension of the ruling powers of the Maharaja Sir Gulab Singh in February 1942 all the security prisoners have been released unconditionally The Maharaja has now been absolved of the charges levelled against him and he has been allowed to return to his State but his administrative powers have been limited to within the palace only such as appointment or dismissal of palace servants etc

In accordance with the instructions of the Crown Representative Mr E V Wakefield I C S has been appointed Prime Minister of the Rewa State and Rai Saheb Kartar Nath of the Central Provinces Inspector General of the State Police

Indore

STATE FOOD CONFERENCE

Presiding over the Indore State Food Conference held at Indore Mr Mishrilal Gangwal former President of the Provincial Congress Committee urged the Indore Government to hand over the Food Department to people s representatives About 125 delegates and 1 000 visitors attended the Conference Due to the ban on public meetings in Indore the Conference was restricted to delegates and special invitees only Mr N H Bravid M L C welcoming the delegates explained how the food situation in the State had been deteriorating for the last five years

Patiala

MR H S MALIK

Patiala s new Prime Minister Mr Hardit Singh Malik is the most senior Sikh in the Indian Civil Service He vacated recently the post he held for four years with credit and distinction as India s first Trade Commissioner in the U S A and Canada with headquarters in New York He made a mark in the social and diplomatic circles in New York and Washington Mr Malik partic pated as the Government of India s representative in four international con ferences—the Cotton Conference in Washing ton in 1939 the Labour Conference in New York in 1941 the Food Conference in Hot Springs and the U N R R A Conference in Atlantic City in 1943

Kashmir

WAR MATERIALS

His Highness s Government have been supplying large quantities of raw silk to the Government of India for the manu facture of parachute cloth required for defence purposes From the beginning of the war to the end of December 1943 over 486 000 lbs of raw silk has been supplied to the Government of India By the end of June 1944 another 40 000 lbs will have been supplied

His Highness s Government have also been manufacturing parachute cloth for the Government of India One of the two silk weaving factories doing this work was destroyed by fire in August 1942 but the work went on in the other factory which now has 124 looms with the requisite preparatory and finishing machinery

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Deposits as at (31 12 1943)	Rs	81 63 71 000

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H C CAPTAIN
Managing Director

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

THE PEGGING ACT

Found guilty in the Durban Magistrate's Court under the Pegging Act of occupying premises at 232, Moore Road, Durban, between January 15 and May 8, this year, without authority or permit, Mr. P. R. Pather was sentenced to a fine of £20 and a month's hard labour or two months' hard labour. The latter was suspended on condition that he vacated the premises on or before June 30.

Mr. Pather said that the presence of the Pegging Act on the Statute Book was a stigma on the national honour of his people and an affront to his motherland. This case had shown how in its operation the Pegging Act deprived the Indian people of their inherent elementary rights. He was prepared to submit to the penalties of the law. "The world will be my judge of the operation of a law which is not only undemocratic but also unparalleled in any civilised country. My stand is the moral right of my people, my action solely guided by the desire to vindicate the rights of my people", concluded Mr. Pather.

Mr. Pather's fine was again paid by an unidentified person. He was not sent to prison.

U.S.A.

INDIANS IN U S A

The President of the Indian Seamen's Union and Indian delegate to the I L O Conference, Mr. Aftab Ali said at New York "I do not want to be unduly harsh, but I can assure you that we in India shall not give in concerning the question of American citizenship, no matter what our financial and commercial interests of the future may be and no matter how helpful America may be as regards India's coming processes of industrial development. We have not the slightest intention of extending the hand of friendship and co-operation to any country which will not treat our nationals on a footing to perfect equality."

Mr. Aftab Ali was speaking at a dinner given by the Indian Association for American Citizenship in honour of Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, President of the Indian Federation of Labour.

Italy

INDIAN TROOPS

Gen. Mark Clark, the 5th Army Commander, under whom Indians fought on the Cassino Front in February and March last, has paid a tribute to the role they are playing in the battle of Italy.

In a statement to the *A.P.I. Special* Correspondent, Gen. Clark said: "In a *difficult campaign, attended by extremes* of physical hardship and requiring the utmost in individual courage and sacrifice, the Indian troops in Italy are contributing, without reserve, their full share to our ultimate victory. Undaunted by a determined foe, unfavourable terrain, and often extremes of weather, the troops from India are displaying an aggressiveness which comes from discipline, leadership, and each man's personal valour and determination."

Ceylon

C.R. ON INDIANS IN CEYLON

"My message to them, our countrymen in Ceylon, all is that there is no reason to fear or to be perturbed about the future of Indians in Ceylon", declared Mr. C. Rajagopalachari in an interview on his recent tour of Ceylon.

"My discussions with Sinhalese leaders of importance," Mr. Rajagopalachari said, "have led me to feel that a very just settlement is possible. I am certain that the Indian leaders in Ceylon will not put any impediment in the way of attainment by Ceylon of her self government I have given unambiguous advice on the matter, and I believe that it will not be rejected by the leaders of the Ceylon Indian Congress. I have every reason to hope that the Sinhalese Ministers are not now in the same frame of mind as they were some time ago. I believe they will find a solution which will be acceptable to the Indian leaders and which will prevent an excuse to the British Government for postponing the grant of autonomy on the ground of unsolved minority issues."

England

INDIANS FOR ADVANCE STUDIES

Mr. Amery told the House of Commons that all steps were being taken to make adequate provision to accommodate the large number of Indians wishing to come to Britain for advanced study and training as soon as circumstances permitted.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS ǂ DEPARTMENTAL ǂ NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

Mr. AMERY ON THE RELEASE OF LEADERS

Mr Gandhi's release was not effected with the intention of releasing other Congress leaders. It is impracticable to hold elections for the Central and Provincial Legislatures during the monsoon period These are points from a letter the Secretary of State for India, Mr Leopold Amery has written to the Labour Member of Parliament, Mr. William Dobbie, who with ten other Labour M P s, had written to Mr. Amery stating, "We believe Mr Gandhi s release should be treated as the starting point of a general amnesty for all political prisoners". Mr. Amery s reply is as follows

It is no doubt a natural expectation that the release of Mr "Gandhi should lead the way to the release of the Congress leaders It was, in fact made with no such intention but solely on grounds of ill health and the position as regards those still in detention remains unchanged I shall not repeat at length my views and those of His Majesty s Government in regard to the policy of the Congress Party The 'deadlock', such as it is, is of their making and it is the result of their Resolution of August, 1942, which at a critical time aimed at paralysing the whole machinery of Government in order to enforce their political demands The Viceroy s appeal for co operation, made in his address to the Indian Legislature in February, has so far met with no response from Congress leaders, and while they remain wedded to the policy of the August I esolution, it is difficult to see how their release could be contemplated by the Governor General and his Council, who are responsible for the security and defence of India

ALL INDIA MUSLIM MAJLIS

The Nationalist Muslim Conference, which met at New Delhi on May 16, passed the following resolution

In view of the present political situation in the country and the interests of the Muslims as also for implementing the resolution on Hindu Muslim settlement and other resolutions passed at this session it is resolved that the Nationalist Muslims should reorganise themselves under the name of the All India Muslim Majlis with its headquarters at Delhi and branches throughout India

This organisation shall seek to guide and lead the Muslims unitedly for the achievement of complete National Independence and other correct objectives and shall also strive to bring about a Hindu Muslim settlement in their own interest and in that of the country as a whole

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

ROOSEVELT ON I L O CHARTER

President Roosevelt at a conference at White House, Washington, on May 17, told delegates to the International Labour Conference that the attainment of conditions laid down in the I L O Philadelphia Charter must constitute the aim of National and International policy

You have affirmed the right of all human beings to material well being and spiritual development under conditions of freedom and dignity, and under conditions of economic security and of opportunity The worthiness and success of international policies will be measured in future by the extent to which they promote the achievement o this end

Your declaration sums up the aspirations of an epoch which has known two world wars I confidently believe that future generations will look back upon it as a landmark in world thinking I am glad to have an opportunity of endorsing its specifications on behalf of the United States I think that, within a short time, its specific terms will be whole heartedly endorsed by all the United Nations

FIROZ KHAN ON INDIA AND THE EMPIRE

India's Representative on the War Cabinet, Sir Firoz Khan Noon, speaking at the Conference of Empire Premiers in London, said.

There are no two opinions in India so far as maintenance of the ties with Great Britain and prosecution of the present war are concerned

There is not one in India, not even Mr Gandhi himself, who does not want the United Nations to win And there are no two opinions about the maintenance, when the war is won, of India s connection with Great Britain and with other Dominions

ARCHBISHOP S APPEAL TO INDIA

The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. William Temple, speaking at the 145th Anniversary of the Church Missionary Society, said

We think of India waiting until this world conflict is over so that there may be an opportunity for full attention to be given to the solution of its own problems and all the time, waiting in increasing bitterness. Only the gospel of love of God can cure that bitterness or help the people of India to come together into true fellowship and unity The conversion of India should be something near to the heart of all of us

INDIAN POLITICAL DEADLOCK

Mr. Amery, the Secretary of State for India, received on May 17, a deputation of the British Council of Churches led by the Archbishop of Canterbury. The deputation presented the following resolution passed by the British Council of Churches:—

The British Council of Churches is greatly concerned at the political deadlock in India and at the growing alienation and distrust between the Indian and British peoples It urges that in spite of all difficulties Government should provide for renewed consultation between leaders of all Indian Parties, even while some are still interned, believing that this is a necessary condition of any real progress towards a settlement.

The very Reverend Dr. Hutchinson Cockburn and Reverend Norman Goodall spoke in support of the resolution. In reply, Mr. Amery dealt fully with the present situation in India and expressed his appreciation of the opportunity of a frank exchange of views with the Council.

MR. AMERY S CONSTITUENCY

The Vice-Chairman of the British Communist Party, Mr. R. Palme Dutt, has been adopted as the prospective Communist candidate for the Sparkbrook Division of Birmingham, the seat at present held by the Secretary of State for India, Mr. Leopold Amery.

Mr. Dutt, who is one of the leading intellectuals of the party, is the son of the *surgeon, Mr. Upendra Krishna Dutt* and Anna Palme of Calmar, Sweden. He is the editor of a Labour monthly and former editor of the *Daily Worker*.

CHIEF PRESS ADVISER

Sir Usha Nath Sen, Director, *Reuters*, has been appointed Chief Press Adviser to the Government of India, *vice* Mr. B. J. Kirchner. Mr. Kirchner is proceeding on leave and will later re-join the *Statesman*.

HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR AUSTRALIA

Dr. Sir Raghunath Paranjpye, President, National Liberal Federation, has been appointed High Commissioner for India in Australia.

BASIC EDUCATION

Basic education, introduced into Bombay Province as an experiment in 1939, is to be continued for five years from June 1, states a press note from the Director of Information, Bombay.

Government have directed the continuance of the experiment on the recommendation of a sub committee of the Central Advisory Board of Education, which visited *Bombay Province at the* end of 1942 to examine the working of the Basic schools and make suggestions for their future development.

Other recommendations of this sub-committee which Government have accepted are the extension of the Basic course up to Standard VII, the payment of a special allowance of Rs. 5 a month to teachers in Basic schools, and that a senior officer of the Education Department *should be* placed in charge of the scheme.

BRITAIN'S EDUCATION BILL

Britain's Education Reform Bill, which provides opportunities for every child to have primary and *secondary education* until the age of 16 and then part-time education until 18, completed its five months' passage through the House of Commons on May 12, when the third reading was passed without a division.

Under the Bill the school-leaving age *will* be raised from 14 to 15 from April 1, 1945, and then to 18 as soon as teachers and schools become available. Until 18, children must attend "young people's colleges" for part-time education in working hours.

SIR S RADHAKRISHNAN

Sir Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan returned from Chungking on May 21, after a short *visit to China* at the invitation of the Chinese Government.

During his visit, Sir Sarvapalli delivered lectures at Chinese Universities and to academic bodies on problems of Indian thought and on the cultural relationship between India and China. The Chinese Government will *publish his lectures and* talks on philosophy with a Chinese translation.

ORDER ON MRS NAIDU

The United Press learns that some correspondence had passed between the Government of India and Mrs Sarojini Naidu on the question of the former's ban on Mrs Naidu prohibiting her from making public speeches or communicating her views to the Press

It is understood that the Government of India expressed their preparedness to modify the ban especially with a view to making it less restrictive in relation to activities of a non political nature and invited suggestions from her in this direction that she might like to make Mrs Naidu the United Press further gathers expressed her inability to accept any conditional or partial withdrawal of the ban The Government therefore decided that the ban on her must continue

RECRUITMENT TO THE BENCH

Among reforms of the Indian Judicial system suggested by Sir John Beaumont ex Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court in the course of his address to the East India Association were raising the age for retirement of judges in the High Court from 60 to 65 abolition of the judicial branch of the Indian Civil Service recruitment to District and High Court benches from provincial judicial services by promotion of the best subordinate judges and also direct from among suitable members of the bar and transference of all magisterial work from executive officers to resident magistrates appointed from the bar

DETENTION UNDER ORDINANCE III

The Federal Court on May 23 unanimously allowed the appeals of four Bihar detenus against the orders passed by the Patna High Court dismissing the *habeas corpus* petitions filed by them or on their behalf

Their Lordships directed that the cases be remitted to the Patna High Court with a direction that the petitions be restored to the file and disposed of in due course of law in the light of the decision of the Federal Court as to the nature and extent of the Court's power in the matter

The detenus concerned are Basant Chandra Ghose Mahant Dhanraj Puri Asoke Kumar Bose and Baidyanath Rai

INSURANCE COMPANIES PROBLEMS

There is no doubt that insurance though at present primarily confined to life just as co operative societies are confined to indebtedness will play a large part in the future economic life of this country declared Sir M Azizul Haque Commerce Member Government of India at a luncheon given by the Federation of Indian Insurance Companies on May 13 at New Delhi

Mr M N Seth President of the Federation referring to capital issues said while in other industries the Examiner of Capital Issues was the only authority with whom they had to deal in the case of insurance they had to pass through the triple fires of the Superintendent of Insurance the Reserve Bank and finally the Examiner of Capital Issues which resulted in their applications for the increase of capital coming out somewhat scorched

The second difficulty was with regard to the compulsion regarding percentage of the investments in Government and approved securities

We have protested loudly and for long but our wailings although they have often touched the soft hearts of oft changing Commerce Members have always met with a deaf ear in the Finance Department

The third difficulty was that the rate of income tax had quite different repercussions in insurance from what it had in other industries

LOSSES IN BOMBAY DISASTER

Negotiations between insurance companies and the Government of India over the question of compensation for losses due to the Bombay explosions are now successfully concluded It is learnt that the Fire Offices Association in London had been moved by the India Government through the India Office

According to the final arrangement reached it is stated the Government of India will pay compensation to the extent of 72½ per cent of the claims insurance companies will pay 12½ per cent and the assured will bear 15 per cent The India Government will pay 85 per cent to the assured and recover from the insurance companies their share of the claims (12½ per cent) in annual instalments

CENTRAL CONSUMERS' COUNCIL

The Government of India in the Industries and Civil Supplies Department have declared to set up a Central Consumer's Council composed of prominent non-official men and women, says a press note.

The functions of the Council will be to advise Government on the types of consumer goods required by the public on the working of price control measures and on suggestions regarding distribution and economy in the use of such commodities as are in short supply.

The Chairman of the Council will be the Hon'ble Sir Muhammad Azizul Haque, Member for Industries and Civil Supplies, and Commerce

INDO CEYLON TEXTILE TRADE

A deputation on behalf of the Ceylon Textile Merchants' Association, the South Indian Textile Merchants' Chamber and the South Indian Muslim Mercantile Chamber, *Colombo, waited on the Commerce Member*, Sir Azizul Haque at Delhi and presented a memorial expressing grave concern and alarm at the measures adopted in Ceylon for the control of textiles to "oust and eliminate" Indian traders from the textile trade in the building up of which, they say, they have spent "long and patient years of specialisation" and invested large sums.

INDIAN CLOTH IN AUSTRALIAN MARKET

The *Sydney Daily Mirror* complains that Indian cloth of poor appalling quality is appearing in the Australian market. The paper states, "There is ample evidence that in unloading this shoddy rubbish in Australia some Indian merchants have pulled off a lucrative swindle against this country."

WORLD MONETARY CONFERENCE

The possible duration of the stay of the Indian Delegation to the World Monetary Conference to be held in Washington is expected to be two months. Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetti will accompany Sir *Jeremy* Raisman as an unofficial member of the Indian delegation.

WOMEN'S PAGE

TRAFFIC IN GIRLS

That advantage of the acute food situation in Bengal had been taken by some people in carrying on a trade of gathering helpless destitute girls and widows and selling them for immoral purposes was admitted by Mr. Biren Roy, Parliamentary Secretary, in the Bengal Legislative Council recently during question-time

The provisions of the Indian Penal Code, Mr. Roy said, were sufficient to deal with the sale of young girls.

MISS CHAYA

An Indian girl got the prize in London for proficiency in music. She is Miss Chaya, the 12 year old daughter of Dr. K. C. Bhattacharya, the well-known physician and surgeon practising in King's Cross, London. She was awarded the first prize, silver medal, recently at the annual North London musical competition. This is the first time that an Indian has received this *unique distinction*

FIRST MUSLIM LADY RESEARCH STUDENT

Mrs. Amina Rahman, the first Muslim lady research student in the Department of Applied Chemistry of the Calcutta University, has been awarded one of the Adair Dutt Research Fund scholarships to study methods of estimation of the vitamin of the 'B' group and their assay in Indian foodstuffs (nutrition).

EQUAL TREATMENT FOR WOMEN

The I. L. O. Dependent Territories Committee, by a vote of 27 to 13, upheld the principle of "fair and equal treatment for women as regards remuneration," defeating the British amendment which would have inserted the words "in fixing the remuneration," which some delegates said would have a weakening effect.

MEDICAL WOMEN IN INDIA

India has 2,769 medical women registered in India out of a total of 42,000 doctors for a population of 388 millions. Registered nurses number 7,000 or one nurse for 55,570 people and 226 square miles.

ORISSA JOURNALISTS CONFERENCE

A warning that the greatest danger to a free Press in India might come from the party governments of the future was uttered by Mr A D Mani Editor *Hitavada* Nagpur in his presidential address at the All Orissa Journalists Conference held at Cuttack last month

The speaker said that experience of the manner in which party and autonomous Governments had treated the Press particularly in provinces like the Punjab and Bengal where the agreement between the Editors Conference and the Government was not working satisfactorily gave sufficient grounds for the fear that party governments of the future would try to punish that section of the Press which was hostile to them It was therefore imperative that organised bodies of journalists should press for the inclusion in the declaration of rights of the future Indian constitution of a clause that would guarantee freedom of the Press a declaration which would be susceptible of enforcement in courts of law

A DISGRACEFUL DOCUMENT

A pamphlet entitled *Our British Empire* was described as disgraceful by Mr Fenner Brockway Political Secretary Independent Labour Party speaking at the Ind an Free dom Campaign meeting at Caxton Hall recently The Government of India were distributing the pamphlet among British officers in charge of Indian troops although from the first to the last word it embodied one of the worst features of Nazism—racial superiority

It is a d sgraceful document and Mr Amery and Sir James Grigg should insist on its being withdrawn immediately from circulation

Sir A QUILLERCOUCH

Sir Arthur Quillercouch the English Man of Letters who died at his home at Cornwall on 13th May was aged 80

Born in 1863 Sir Arthur Quillercouch was Professor of English Literature at Cambridge He wrote not only a number of authoritative works on literary subjects but was also a popular novelist who produced some of the most delightful romances in the English language He was Editor of the Oxford Book of English Verses and several of its companion antho logies He was knighted in 1912

Mr V S RAMASWAMI SASTRI

We regret to record the death of Mr V S Ramaswami Sastri Special Press Adviser to Government of Madras Mr Sastri was aged 62 at the time of his death After taking his B L degree he was an apprentice under the late Mr V Krishnaswami Aiyar He had journalistic proclivities and joined the *Hindu* in 1906 a year after the late Mr Kasturiranga Aiyangar had joined that institution He was there till 1913 The Liberal Party requisitioned his services to edit a weekly called the *Citizen* After six years he entered the *New India* In 1920 he came back to the *Hindu* as Assistant Editor He retired in 1939 and became Special Press Adviser to the Government of Madras He was a capable and conscientious journalist

THE LATE LORD SNELL

It was announced sometime ago that Lord Snell of Plumstead Deputy Leader of the House of Lords died in London

Lord Snell was a Labour Peer and first farm labourer to sit in the House of Lords He was raised to the peerage on his appointment as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (India Office) in 1931 He entered the House of Commons in 1922 and from 1934 to 1938 was Chairman of the London County Council A self made man he was educated at four universities—Nottingham London Heidelberg and Zurich

LATE MAJOR M G BEWOOR

Major M G Bewoor son of Sir Gurunath Bewoor was recently killed in action in Burma during an attack by the enemy on a position occupied by his unit Major Bewoor whose family belongs to Bagalkot in the Bijapur District of the Bombay Presidency was born in 1913 and was educated at Cambridge Sandhurst and Dehra Dun He leaves a widow and two children

BABU SHIVA PRASAD GUPTA

Benares and indeed the United Provinces in general have lost a fine old gentleman in the death of Babu Shiva Prasad Gupta one time treasurer of Indian National Congress and founder of the Kashi Vidyapith and the Hindu daily *Aj* He was a great philanthropist and his death has created a gap difficult to fill in the Province

THE USE OF PENICILLIN

Addressing neuro-surgeons from 20 Army centres, a U.S. Army brain surgeon reported that the use of penicillin had cut in half the expected death rate in the largest series of penicillin-treated infections of the central nervous system on which a report has yet been made. The surgeon described 12 cases that had been treated at the Walter Reed Hospital, of which only three died. He said *two of the deaths resulted from complications* after penicillin had helped neutralize the original infection, and the third patient was virtually lost before the drug had a chance to act. Commenting on four cases of brain abcesses, the surgeon admitted that surgery alone would not have saved the men. Neither, perhaps, would have penicillin. It was the combination of both that worked.

INDIAN PHARMACOPŒIAL LIST

What is expected to form a nucleus of the Indian pharmacopœia is now being compiled by a Committee appointed by the Government of India. The Indian pharmacopœial list, when prepared by the Committee, will contain all indigenous items, which can be used as substitutes for foreign imported drugs.

Col. Sir R. N. Chopra is the Chairman of the Committee which includes, among others, Dr. P. Kutumbiah of the Andhra Medical College.

VIVICILLIN

Working secretly in a laboratory near London, Dr. Hans Enoch, who left Germany when Hitler came to power, has developed a new drug which he has called *vivicillin, because it contains* penicillin in living form. The remarkable healing properties of the new drug were discovered accidentally when treating a boy who was suffering from acute appendicitis and peritonitis. Operations would probably have meant death.

STUDENT MEDICAL DELEGATION

A student medical delegation of 12 from Madras has gone to Calcutta for carrying on relief work in Bengal. It will work in the districts of Chittagong, Dacca, Noakhali and Barisal under the guidance of the Bengal Medical Relief Co ordination Committee. The delegation has taken funds amounting to Rs. 3,000 for relief work as well as supplies of medicines and clothes.

CENTRAL HEALTH SURVEY

To associate the people more closely with *the health problem of the country* and to solve it by raising an additional medical personnel of 800,000 in 30 years is the aim of the Central Health Survey Committee.

Giving an outline of the issues, the Committee was formulating, Dr. B. C. Roy, Chairman of the Committee, said at Karachi, it might be necessary in the first five years to devote attention to increasing the technical and non-technical people, who *would be* required to prosecute the scheme. Existing medical institutions would have to be increased and new ones established. The scheme will envisage not merely medical relief to those who are ill, but also preventive measures as a safeguard against disease. But the problem is not so simple. Better nutrition, wide education and a higher level of earning power all enter into it. A plan would be formulated to provide relief on a population basis so that there would be at least one medical man for every thousand of the population, whereas the present ratio was about one to ten thousand. A strong public health directorate with a network of provincial auxiliaries would be needed. The scheme will be developed and expanded every five years and the work completed to six stages.

TO SMOKE OR NOT TO SMOKE

Opinion is sharply divided as to whether smoking is harmful or not. It does produce physiological changes. Nicotine, absorbed by the smoker in minute quantity, is a powerful drug, which when injected into animals causes contraction of the blood vessels. The upshot seems to be that, as far as scientific evidence goes, each one of us can continue to smoke as much or as little as he feels suits his own constitution.

CORN GERMS

Corn germ—the small yellow nugget inside a kernel of maize is coming into use as human food this year for the first time. The U.S. National Research Council says this element of the grain, formerly discarded in milling because it quickly turned rancid, should be retained. The rancid problem is solved by a special new process that removes the oil, leaving a fine white powder that mixes well with other foods and has a high vitamin content.

THE FUTURE OF CURRENCY

The resolutions passed at the recent Middle East Financial Conference held at Cairo record the steadily growing confidence in the stability of Middle East currencies The conference was attended by the Ministers and experts of 11 Middle East countries and by Sir Theodore Gregory, Economic Adviser to the Government of India Pointing out that there had never been any danger of uncontrolled inflation one resolution emphasises that monetary inflation in the restricted sense of flat money or fiduciary notes not covered (except by advances to Government from the bank of issue) has not taken place in the Middle East Expressing satisfaction at the declared policy of the British Treasury to maintain an approximate level in prices now ruling in the United Kingdom after the war, thereby stabilising the purchasing power of sterling, the conference recommends that all possible measures such as taxation, loans, control of prices and development of production should now be taken by the Middle East Governments in their respective countries to bring price levels into better equilibrium with one another and with external price levels

BANKING IN BENGAL

In his Presidential speech at the Banking and Insurance Section of the All Bengal Economic Conference, which held its annual session at Calcutta recently, Mr J C Das paid special attention to the position of banking in Bengal While expressing gratification at the striking increase not only in the number but in the paid up capital of banks in the Province, he emphasized the responsibilities of banks to their clients and the general public He welcomed the comprehensive banking legislation which was bound to be passed on the ground that soundly managed institutions had nothing to fear from it Whilst much progress had been recorded in the development of banking it must be admitted that it had developed without any plan There were too many banks or branches of banks in some places and too few in others In his view, the remedy for a situation like this was amalgamation which would also enable the rates of interest on deposits to be standardised and in addition increase the financial strength of the institutions

STATE RAILWAY RETURNS

The State owned Railways yielded a net surplus of Rs 45 07 crores after meeting all charges, including depreciation and interest in 1942 43, according to the annual report on Indian Railways issued by the Railway Board Out of this surplus, the amount of outstanding loans taken from the Depreciation Reserve Fund *viz*, Rs 16 08 crores, and a total of Rs 20 18 crores to the general revenues were paid during the year, leaving Rs 8 86 crores which was transferred to the Railway Reserve Fund

The Railway Revenues increased both under coaching and goods traffic

During the year the Bengal and North Western Rohilkhand and Kumaon and the Mirpur Khas Khadro Railways were purchased and brought under State management

RAILWAY STORES ORDINANCE

An Ordinance entitled "The Railway Stores (unlawful possession) Ordinance provides that whoever is found or is proved to have been in possession of any article of Railway Stores shall if the Court sees reasonable grounds for believing such article to have been the property of the administration of any Federal Railway, unless he proves that the article came into his possession lawfully, be punishable with imprisonment for a maximum term of 5 years or with fine or with both

JACOBABAD KASHMIR RAILWAY

A meeting of the Standing Finance Committee for Railways was held recently The Committee approved of the Government exercising the option of purchasing the Jacobabad Kashmir Railway on March 31, 1945 and of giving notice of purchase The purchase price of the Railway is estimated to be about 29 65 lakhs and is likely to give a return to Government of 4 4 per cent

CANADIAN RAILWAYS STOCK FOR INDIA

A Purchasing Commission from India has gone to Ottawa to buy Canadian Railway equipment A member of the Commission said that India is very short of engines and rolling stock The war, it is said, has greatly increased the country's demand for these materials

A CHOLA TEMPLE AT DARASURAM

The Cholas were great temple builders and a distinct style of architecture came into being during their supremacy of about 500 years (roughly 850 to 1850 A.D.). The famous temple of Tanjore, Gangaikondacholapuram, Chidambaram and Darasuram are but a few built during the Chola period. The last named temple forms the subject of the following note contributed by Mr. T. Srinivasan:

"The architectural merits of Darasuram temple," to quote from the *Tanjore District Gazetteer*, "are greater than those of the great temples at Kumbakonam itself". The vimana of the God's shrine is entirely built of stone. The *alankara mandapa* contains a number of pillars in the base of which are sculptured incidents from Periya Puranam. On the south side of the mandapa, stone wheels and horses are seen, the whole being intended to represent a "ratha" or chariot. The north verandah of the Airavateswara shrine accommodates figures of 108 Saiva devotees.

Of the numerous sculptures in the temple, the *Jnana Dakshinamurthy* deserves special mention. Siva is here portrayed imparting *Jnana* or enlightenment to the rishis Another feature in the temple is the rare image of *Panchamukasubrahmanya* (or Subrahmanya with five faces).

The curiosity of the visitor to the temple is aroused just before the entrance to the Airavateswara shrine; that is, when the steps leading to the Balipeeta are struck, they produce different musical sounds!"

UNIVERSITY OF MUSIC FOR ALLAHABAD

The plans appear to have matured for the establishment of a University of Music at Allahabad, to be associated with the name of the late Pandit Vishnudigambar, a great exponent of the art of Indian classical music. It is likely that the Vishnudigambar University of Music will be inaugurated some time in the middle of October on the occasion of the annual convocation and music conference of the Prayag Sangit Samiti, the sponsors of the University scheme.

HEARNE, THE CRICKETER

John Thomas Hearne, England and Middlesex cricketer, died on 17th April at his home, Chalfont Stagiles, after an illness lasting eighteen months. He was one of the greatest bowlers of all time. During his career, Hearne took 8,050 wickets, a record only surpassed by W. Rhodes, A. P. Freeman and C. W. L. Parker. He made twelve appearances for England —six against Australia in England, five in Australia and one in India. In the test against Australia at Leeds in 1899, Hearne dismissed Clem Hill, Sidney Gregory and M. A. Noble with successive deliveries.

ONE-LEGGED ATHLETE

An amazing feat was achieved when an one-legged man won the high jump at the Inter-Normal athletic meeting held in Pretoria recently.

This astonishing athlete, J. A. de Villers, a student of Heidelberg Normal College, discarded his crutch at the last moment when called upon to jump, and with a tremendous leap hoisted himself over the crossbar. All the spectators applauded when he won the event with a leap of 5 feet 7 inches.

GAMA THE WRESTLER

"I am still fit enough to hold my own against all comers for at least another ten years", said Gama, the undefeated wrestling champion of the world, who is 70 years old and has eleven children, but not a single grey hair in his head.

He does not expect any serious challenge to his title from foreigners, he added.

Gama lives almost exclusively on a diet of chicken and drinks a strange brew of milk and almonds.

POST-WAR CRICKET IN ENGLAND

The M. C. C. have taken the following decisions concerning post-war cricket. Firstly, one experimental season immediately after the war; secondly, return to six-ball over; thirdly, new ball after 50 overs; fourthly, declaration on first day after 300 runs; fifthly, retention of three-day county matches.

SCIENCE

Dr SAKLATWALLA

Dr Beram D Saklatwalla, addressing a meeting of American electro chemists, said that discoveries in the field of metal alloys will revolutionize the transportation industry after the war He said that trains will be lighter because of the production of steel which is so strong that less of it need be used Airplanes will be still lighter than they are at present

Dr Saklatwalla, an outstanding expert on alloys, delivered the Joseph W Richards' Lecture which is given annually in memory of the founder of the Electro chemical Society

A Parsi and a member of the Tata Steel family of India Dr. Saklatwalla was born in Bombay in 1881 and began his industrial career in the United States in 1909 Cor Ten, his steel alloy, is used both in India and in America

FABRIC OF PETROLEUM AND SEA WATER

The Firestone Industrial Products Com pany has brought out a new synthetic fabric called velon, derived from petroleum and sea water Now used to make mosquito nettings for Pacific troops, the material later will be used for women's stockings handbags, hats and shoes Experimentally, it is being used to upholster railway car seats The manufacturers claim it is stain resistant, non tearing, non splitting, non toxic to the human skin capable of being woven with cotton and wool and dyed any desired colour Touched with a direct flame, it melts but will not burn

Professor S CHANDRASEKHAR

A former Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, and now Associate Professor at Chicago University Mr Subramanya Chandrasekhar is one of the twenty new Fellows of the Royal Society elected for 1944 He is distinguished for his contributions to Theoretical Astronomy and Astro Physics, particularly to Stellar structure and the Dynamics of Stellar System Mr Chandrasekhar is the nephew of Sir C V. Raman and son of Mr C S Aiyar

I F I "SHORTS"

Documentary films dealing with various aspects of Indian life and culture are to be sent to Russia Information Films of India have just concluded an arrangement with the Asia Films of China, a Russian film distributing organisation, under which Indian "shorts" will be exhibited at theatres in Soviet Russia

The first batch of I F I shorts include *Our Heritage*, *Invisible Power* and *Concrete* All these shorts will be dubbed with Russian commentaries When selecting documentary films for export, those dealing with the cultural and social life of the country should always have priority

I F I have done a creditable job of work and there is a noticeable improve ment in the quality of the shorts It is significant that theatres not on I. F I's regular circuit are making voluntary bookings of I F I films More attention, however, should be paid to the existing system of distribution, which is defective

FILM AWARDS FOR 1943

The Bengal Film Journalists' Association's awards for 1943 are rather interesting They have chosen as the best for 1943

Foreign picture, *Random Harvest*, Hindi picture *Prithvi Vallabh*, foreign actor, Ronald Colman in *Random Harvest*, Hindi actor, Asok Kumar in *Kismet*, foreign actress, Greer Garson in *Mrs Miniver*, Hindi actress Ramola in *Manchali*, foreign director, Malvyn Le Roy for *Random Harvest*, Hindi director, Mehboob for *Najma*, Hindi music direction, Anil Biswas for *Kismet*, Hindi screen play, Kishore Sahu for *Raja*, Hindi photography, Faredoon Irani in *Najma*, sound recording, Vacha in *Kismet*, art direction, Kanu Desai in *Ram Rajya*, lyrics Pradeep in *Kismet*, dialogues Pandit Sudarshan in *Prithvi Vallabh*

FILMING OF INDIAN TROOPS

A vivid picture of the work of Indian troops in Persia engaged in transporting materials through to Russia will shortly be available in the film prepared by a special team of cameramen.

SPARE PARTS CONTROL ORDER

With a view to eliminating the dual control, which gave rise to certain difficulties, exercised on the distribution and sale of motor vehicle spare parts by the Motor Vehicle Spare Parts Control Order, 1943, on the one hand, and the Hoarding and Profiteering *Prevention* Ordinance on the other, the Government of India have promulgated a new Motor Vehicle Spare Parts Control Order, 1944, which is published in the *Gazette of India*, dated April 29.

The old order controlled the prices of only those parts the distribution and sale of which to essential operators were controlled. The promulgation of the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance brought the prices of motor vehicle spare parts *under a dual* control, that is, a limited control under the Spare Parts Control Order and under the control of the ordinance in respect of other parts.

The new order ends this dual control. It also provides for modifications and amplifications in the original order found necessary as the result of experience gained in the working of the order. The new order controls the prices of all motor vehicle spare parts which can be sold by *any person*, whether their distribution is controlled or not. It continues to control the distribution of certain specified parts that are only distributed through registered dealers and approved sub dealers. It simplifies the *definition of what is a controlled spare part.*

LEASE LEND MOTOR CHASSIS FOR MADRAS

The Madras Government have agreed to advance a loan of Rs 9,54,700 to Messrs. Simpson & Co. Ltd. Madras, for purchase of 167 motor-chassis under Lease-Lend allotted to this Province.

The chassis were required for certain construction works, and Messrs. Simpson & Co. agreed to purchase them under the Government of India's terms for the distribution and use of Lease-Lend motor vehicles and operate them for hire after fitting them for the work. The Company required funds to buy the vehiclee, and Government agreed to advance the loan bearing interest at six per cent. per annum. The principal is repayable in 18 monthly instalments.

MOTORLESS WAR PLANES

The U.S. War Department has announced that the Air Force's newest glider, the CG-13, which is capable of carrying twice the load of the present standard type and with exactly the same wing span, is now in production.

Hitched behind a bomber or cargo plane, the new gliders can be towed within several miles of a military objective, cut loose, and then allowed to glide to earth at the rear of the enemy's lines. Motorless, and therefore noiseless, they give the enemy no warning of their approach until the fighting men inside spring out in full battle array and open fire. Each glider can carry a big gun, its crew and a jeep to haul it.

FUTURE OF AIR BASES

Lord Knollys, Chairman of the British Overseas Air-ways Corporation, stated recently that he was in favour of international use of air bases after the war as a means of expanding world-wide communications.

Lord Knollys, who is on a world tour to discuss the future of air transport with associate companies of the Corporation, said that he planned to return to London by way of the United States and Canada, but did not expect to confer officially on air matters while in the United States.

POST-WAR AVIATION

Britain has been advised that the United States does not intend to use its superior resources in long-range aeroplanes to squeeze Britain out of competition in commercial aviation after the war, said an *Associated Press* message from Washington. Britain, in return, has promised that its Empire-wide net-work of air bases will be available for commercial aircraft of all nations, the message said. Exchange of views on these points was made informally by Mr. Adolph A. Berle and Lord Beaverbrook in their London talks.

HEAVY INDUSTRIES IN INDIA

'The development of heavy industries has been retarded during the war due apparently, to the Government's deliberate inattention and unsympathetic attitude Our appeal to industrialists and leaders in the circumstances is that they should take up this work and not allow it to suffer by neglect observed Sir M Visvesvaraya presiding over the quarterly meeting of the Central Committee of the All India Manufacturers Organisation at Bombay

The organisation he continued had divided the country for industrial purposes into six classes of regional units which constituted provincial boards district councils city councils town committees village group committees and other special units

The measures which were urgently needed and would be of permanent value for industrial development were the establishment of a large industry for the manufacture of machinery the establishment of an institute of higher technology and the starting of a panel of experts

Referring to the 15 year plan of the Bombay industrialists he suggested that it could be transformed into a 5 year plan He approved the emphasis laid in the plan on the key industries

FEDERATION OF CHAMBERS

The following members have been elected to the Executive Committee of the Federation of the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry —

Mr J C Setalwad President Sir Badridas Goenka Vice President Mr N R Sarker Treasurer Sir Padampat Singhania (Textile Industry) Mr Shantiprasad Jain (Mining) Sir Chunilal Mehta (Insurance) Mr C M Kothari (Tea Coffee and Rubber Plantations) Mr Ramdeo Podar (Engineering) Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas (Cotton Trade) Sir Rahimtoola Chinoy (Wireless) Lala Gurusharan Lal (Produce Trade)

The following members have been co opted Kumararaja Sir Muthia Chettiar Mr G D Birla Mr A D Shroff Mr Kasturbhai Lalbhai Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi and Mr G L Mehta

FAMINE AND FOOD IN INDIA

Sir Alfred Watson in an article called Famine over India in the *Sunday Express* says

Food is an All India problem Amidst the jealousies and suspicions of the Provinces none but the Central Government can secure equitable division of supplies Behind all this lamentable story is a problem that is vital to the life of India For 30 years the acreage under crops has remained almost constant but the population has grown by 30 millions In Bengal the per capita production of rice has fallen from 881 pounds in 1909 to 314 pounds in what is now a normal year

India is ceasing to be capable of feeding herself and in the absence of either a great improvement in her agriculture or some sensational fall in her population she is threatened with a recurring famine

LOWER WHEAT ACREAGE

The third all India wheat forecast for 1943 44 published by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence Calcutta states that the total acreage is 33 611 000 with an estimated production of 10 856 000 tons against 31 091 000 acres and 10 915 000 tons the corresponding revised estimates last year There is a decrease of one per cent in area and five per cent in yield The crop is reported to have been affected in places by rain hailstorms and rust but the present condition appears fairly good on the whole

CHEMICAL FERTILISERS IN INDIA

The Government of India have decided to invite British experts to advise them on the type of plant and machinery the location of plant and other ancillary matters in connection with the manufacture of chemical fertilisers in India

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE FOR BIHAR

The Government of Bihar have decided to establish an Agricultural College The appointment of a special officer who will take over the duties of Principal has been sanctioned so that he may take the necessary steps to establish the College by October this year

SOCIAL CHARTER FOR COMMON MAN

A social charter for the common man, which may become one of the most important sections of the peace treaty, was drafted and agreed upon by representatives of practically all nations who may be represented at the peace table when the war is ended. This is the greatest single achievement of the historic 26th I L O. Conference, which closed at Philadelphia last month.

The charter sets forth special principles, which it is suggested, the United Nations should seek to embody in the peace treaty. These concern guarantees of right to work, improved standards of living, minimum standards of employment, effective recognition of the right of freedom of association and collective bargaining.

It is proposed that the I. L. O. should review annually what progress has been made and what measures have been taken in the attainment of the objectives outlined and that it should call a special conference whenever, in the post war world there are signs of economic depression and substantial unemployment.

The charter creates minimum obligations for Governments with regard to employment and labour conditions. It establishes the principle that Governments cannot be permitted to allow employment to develop unchecked or low living standards persist in view of their international consequences.

Whether all this amounts to more than a a mere paper declaration for freedom from want, depends on the determination of Governments to back up the decisions taken here and upon the power of world after the war to influence them.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

Mr. Churchill announced in the House of Commons that the Government had decided to set up a Royal Commission to consider the question of equal pay for equal work—equal pay for the job, whether done by a man or a woman.

FREEDOM FROM WANT

The United States delegation to the International Labour Office Conference at Washington asked the 40 member nations to subscribe at the earliest possible date, rather than at a post-war peace conference, to a programme aimed at ensuring the world freedom from want.

MUSLIM WEEKLY'S CALL

"There is an irresistible demand from every nook and corner of India for the release of Congress leaders who are detained in jails. Even those who are opposed to the Congress are vehement in condemning the action of the Government in detaining these leaders indefinitely. What is wanted at this juncture is their immediate release which will surely solve the present deadlock," writes *Zam-Zam*, a leading Urdu weekly of Lahore, in the course of an editorial article.

Continuing, the paper says:

The real leaders of India are locked up behind the prison bars by the people who do not represent anybody except themselves. If any referendum is taken on this issue, not even one in hundred will support the Government's action. The tragedy of the situation is that the Government of India has scant courtesy for public opinion and they do not care for what the public say or feel

WORLD'S OIL

The United States Government is manifestly entering the foreign oil business by the backdoor, said the *New York Times* recently: "If we go still further, the question of extra-territorial rights will inevitably be raised; so we may be faced with a problem of so many Hong Kongs. Better than this would be some form of international control of the world's oil and just allocation in accordance with individual national needs. If discussions between Britain and the United States result in something better than old imperialism, the way may be paved for an amicable settlement of the question of access to all essential materials."

WORLD RADIO COMMUNICATION

The American Government radio engineers are credited with having worked out a tentative plan for world radio communication after the war. Great radio trunk lines are proposed around the world about 20 degrees north of the Equator. The lines would consist of 8 powerful relay stations at Alexandria, Bombay, Hongkong, Sanjuan, Guam, Honolulu, Mexico and Canary islands.

AMERICAN WAR CASUALTIES

The U S. Office of War Information announces that casualties in the U.S. armed forces, from the outbreak of the war, total 178,481.

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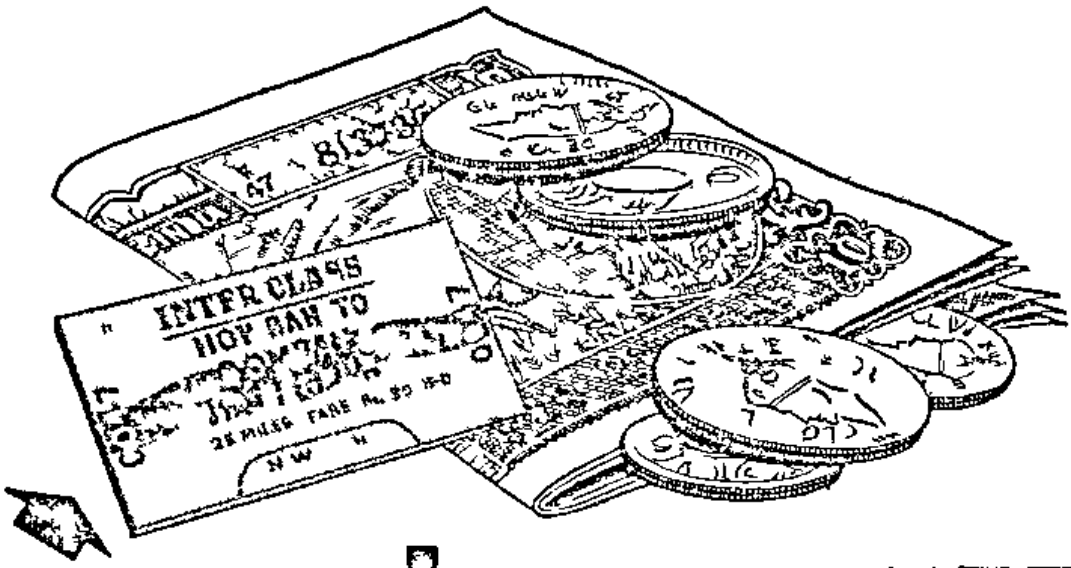
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Transportation to and from the station it used to cost a few annas—now it costs several rupees Food during the journey used to be cheap and plentiful now it is scarce and not so cheap And what do you get for all this? Trouble and anxiety—discomfort during the journey, and the crowding at stations and in carriages increases the risk of infection

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Travel less

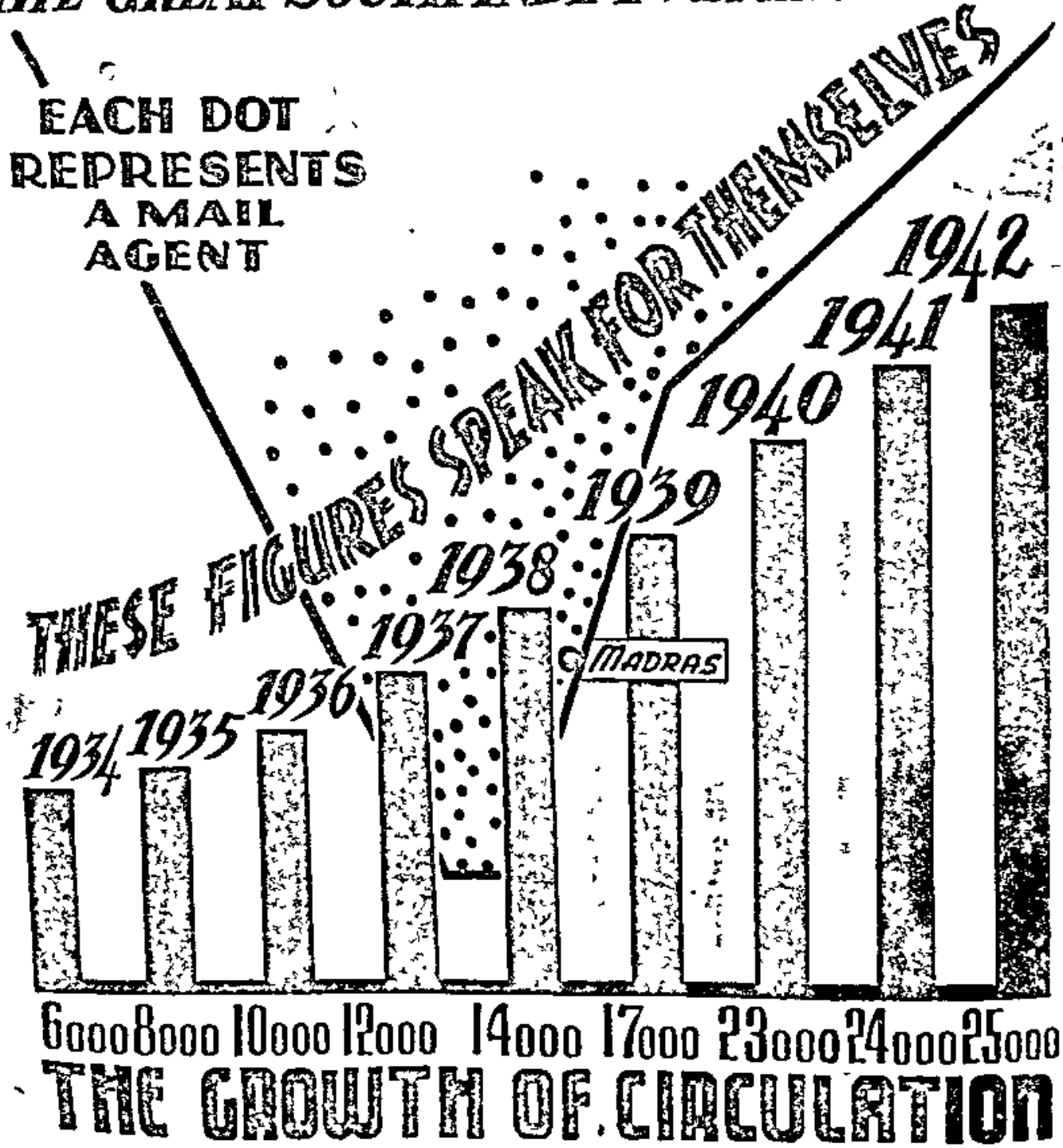
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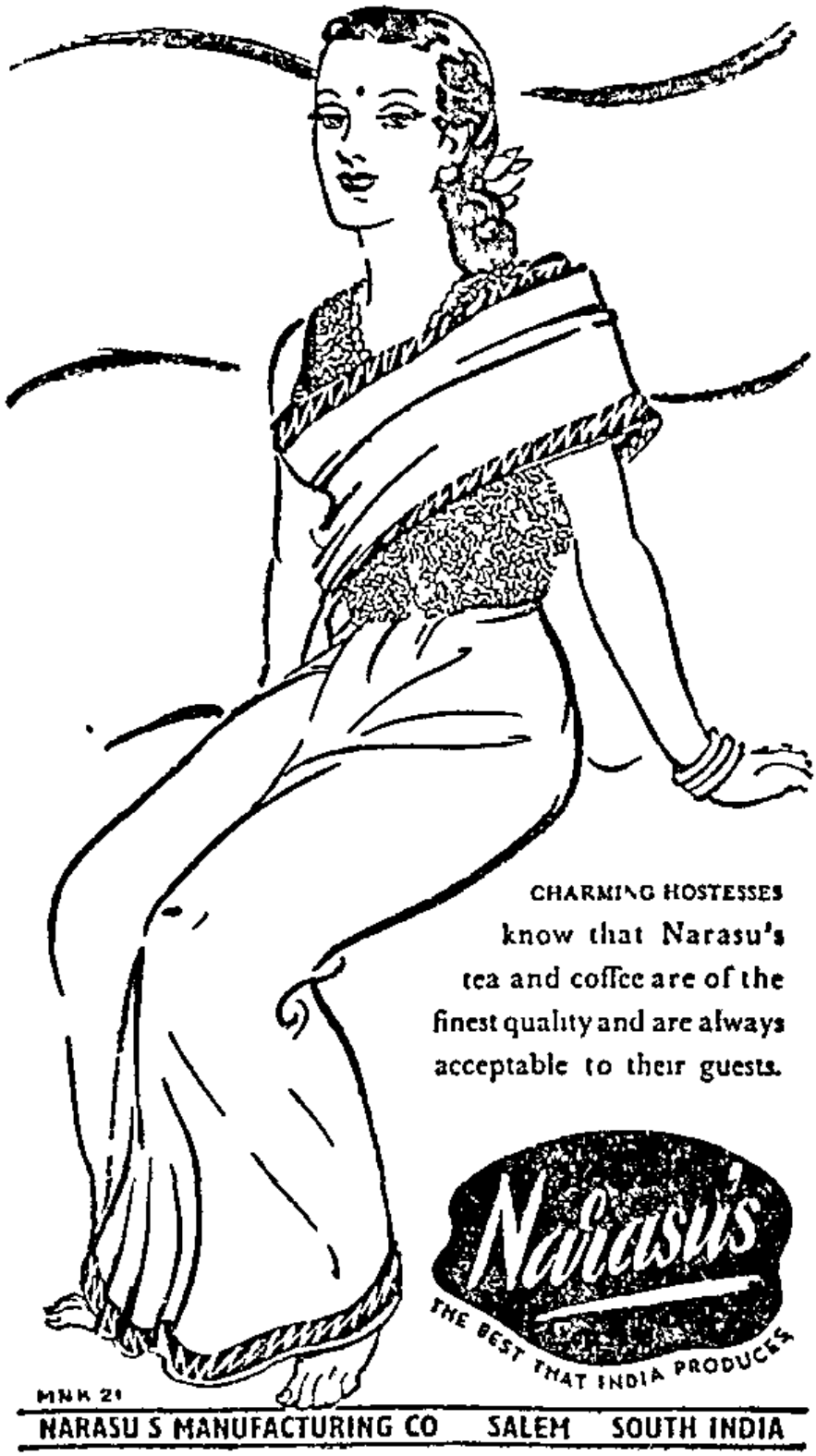
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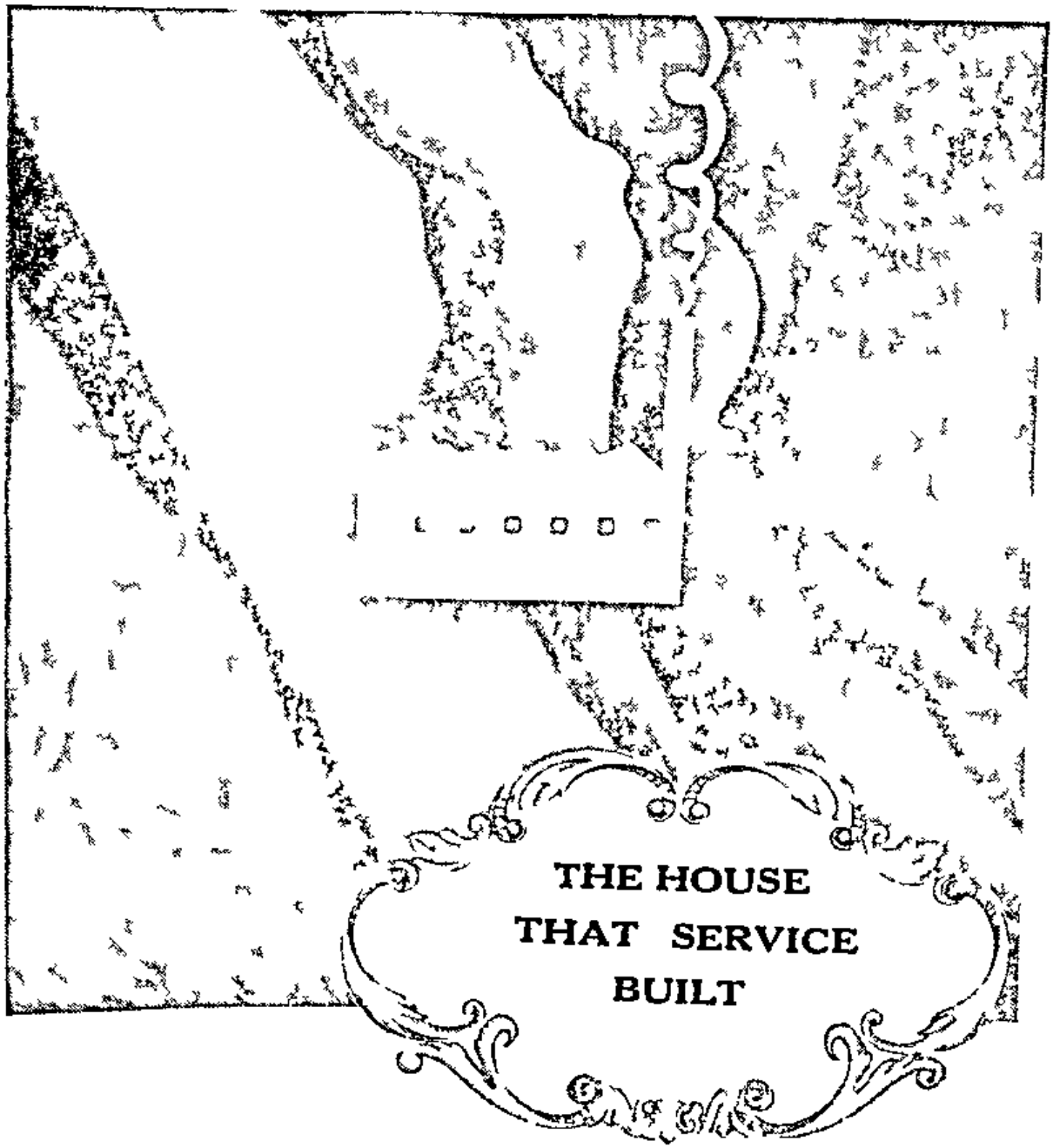
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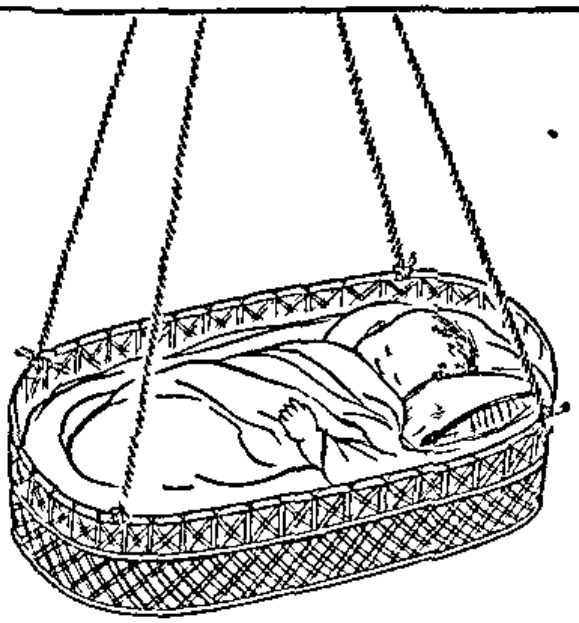
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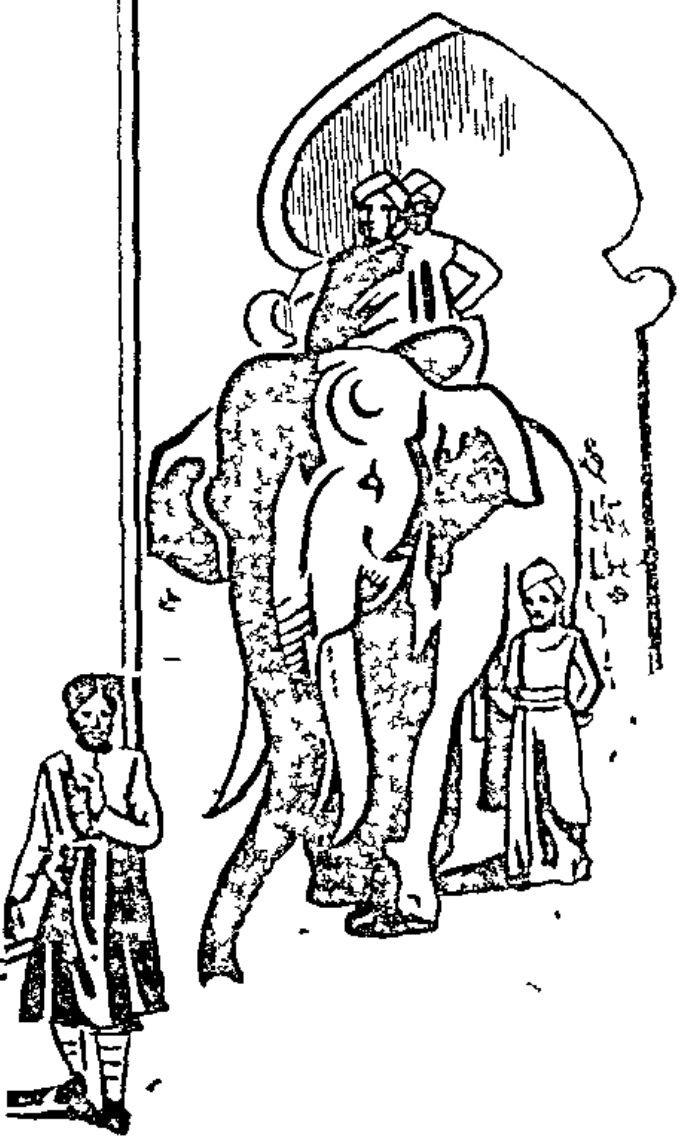
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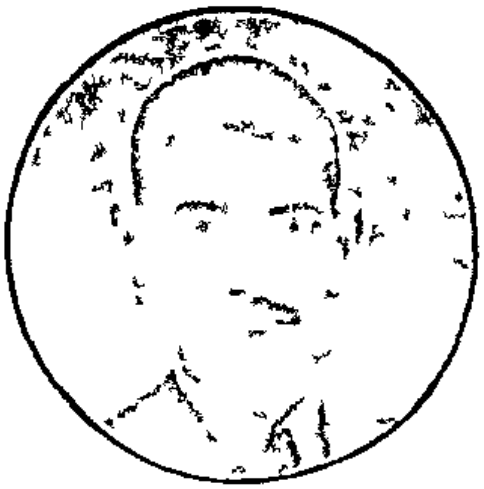
The pioneering work inaugurated by the Prophet had to be faithfully carried on by his successors against many odds. The difficulties that they encountered and the final success achieved by the first four Califs are given in this book.

CONTENTS: Abu Bakr, Omar, Osman and Ali.

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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

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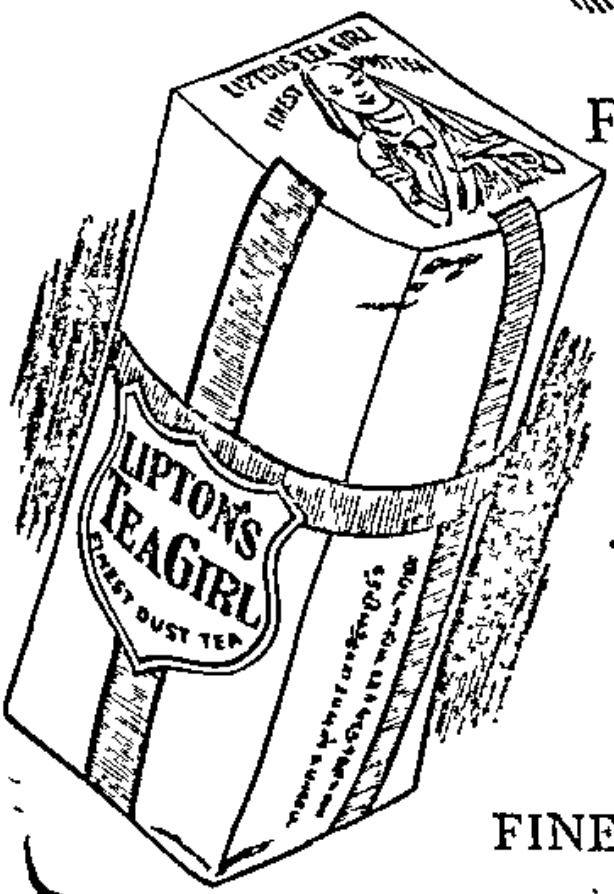
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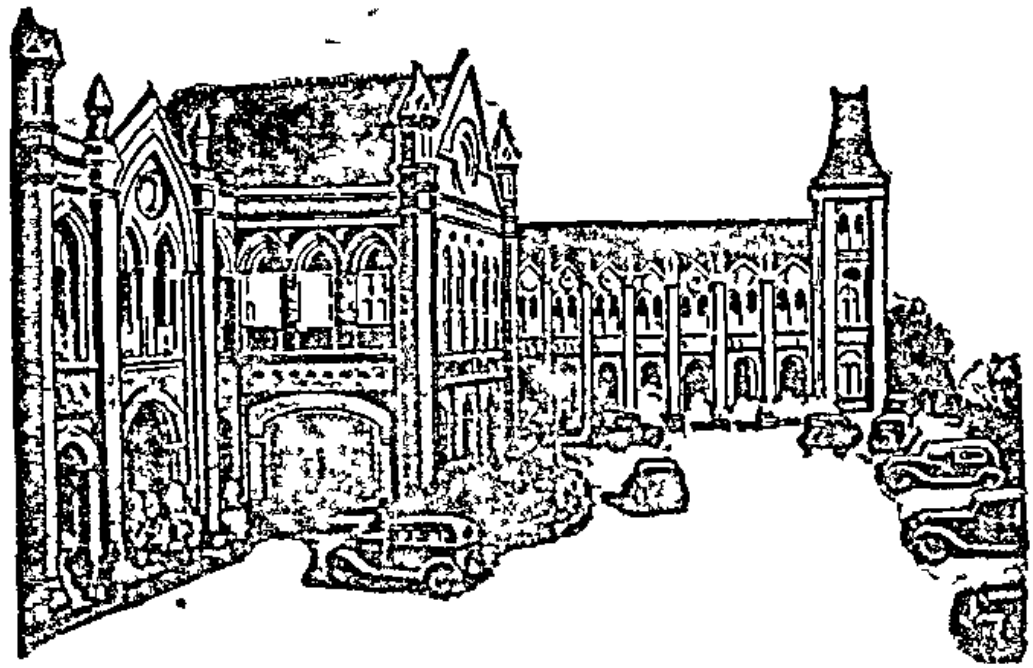
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	2-15 p m.	and to	5-30 p m	

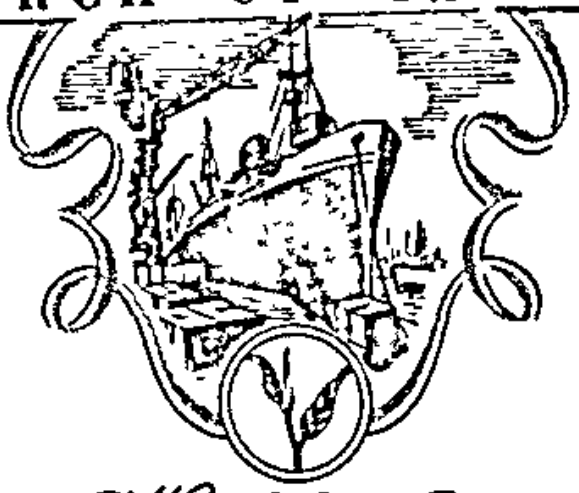
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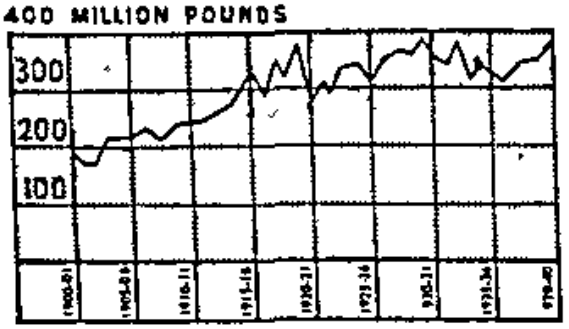
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL TOPICS OF INTEREST

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.] **JULY 1944** **[No. 7.**

THE WAR

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LANDING OF THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

THE long expected invasion of Europe began at dawn on the 6th June It was announced officially in a brief *communique* issued by the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force The message ran as follows

Under the command of General Eisenhower Allied Naval forces supported by strong air forces began landing allied armies this morning on the northern coast of France

By 7 A M that day fierce fighting against the invasion forces in the area of Caen, about 12 miles inland and about 30 miles south west of Le Havre was reported by the German news agency which explained

The combined landing operations of the Anglo *Americans, which were* launched both from the sea and from the air against the European west coast early today extended over the whole coastal sector between Le Havre and Cherbourg

About 12 miles south west of Le Havre the Allies dropped parachute troops and at the same time landed troops from the sea in the coastal sector between the mouths of the rivers Orne and the Vire

Strong enemy naval formations are now approaching this coastal stretch whilst their naval escort is lying west of Boulogne

Allied air and sea borne troops which landed on the coast of the Seine were soon reinforced and amphibious operations on a large scale were simultaneously going on between the Seine estuary and the mouth of the Vire river into the Atlantic on a broad front At the same time paratroops were dropped from numerous aircraft on the northern tip of the Normandy peninsula, while the harbour of Le Havre was being bombarded, German naval forces were engaging allied landing craft off the coast Simultaneously with the landing of air borne troops in the area of the Seine estuary, strong allied bomber formations attacked the areas of Calais and Dunkirk German air defences went into action Thus began the long expected invasion of Europe

* * *

PLAN FOR THE LIBERATION OF EUROPE

Before the assaulting troops under the command of General Montgomery embarked each man was handed a stirring Order of the Day from General Eisenhower It stated

You are about to embark upon the great crusade towards which we have striven these many months The eyes of the world are upon you The hopes and prayers of liberty loving people everywhere march with you

"The landing is part of a concerted plan for the liberation of Europe in conjunction with our Russian Allies' said General Eisenhower, broadcasting to Europe and the world through the B B C 'Those who have made common cause with the enemy will be removed"

The landing of the allied armies on the soil of France is undoubtedly the most gigantic military operation in the history of the world's warfare Nothing like it ye

ever attempted before and it was worthwhile waiting these four years to make sure of such a colossal armada. 4,000 ships and 11,000 planes were being employed at the very start. The number will doubtless swell as the campaign develops. Mr. Churchill revealed in the *Commons* that "obstacles which were constructed on the sea had not proved so difficult as was apprehended". But British sea power is supreme and German naval craft could not have much of a chance with the mighty British armada in the Channel. It is on land rather than on the sea that the toughest resistance is to be expected. There the battle will, in the words of Mr. Churchill, "grow constantly in scale and intensity for many weeks to come."

For facing the United Kingdom is a "wall" 1,800 miles in length and 80 miles deep covered with guns, machine guns, anti-aircraft guns, pill-boxes, bunkers and forts. This "wall" stretches from the German-Dutch border in the north, along the coasts of Holland, Belgium and France, to the Spanish border in the south.

The Germans have had four years in which to perfect this so called "impregnable" defence wall. The concentrated might of British and American naval, air and land power is today testing the truth of that claim. Time will show whether there is anything in that claim or it is yet another characteristic German "bluff" with which we have become familiar since war began. Anyway it is heartening to know that the United Nations are fully prepared to meet the challenge. Apart from the ardour and spirit of the troops going out on this great adventure, "nothing that equipment, science or forethought can do, has been neglected," said Mr. Churchill. "And the whole process of opening the great new front will be pursued with the utmost resolution both by the Commanders and by the Governments whom they serve."

THE BATTLE FOR NORMANDY

As we go to press comes the welcome news of the capture of *Cherbourg by* the Americans. The fall of Cherbourg is perhaps the biggest prize of the invasion so far. It was first announced by the German News Agency in these terms:

> In view of the enemy's crushing superiority, particularly in heavy arms and air power, it is to be assumed that the Americans have succeeded in taking possession of the town of Cherbourg.

The Agency added that German grenadiers fighting in close range combat were unable to prevent American tanks from penetrating into the city as they had run out of ammunition.

Final reports now available show that as the result of a street to street fighting, the allied forces have completely smashed the defences of Cherbourg and the port of Cherbourg itself is under a three pronged attack. Thus the Americans who had advanced from a line between Montebourg and Carentan are in possession of a valuable strip of the coast. Meanwhile General Montgomery's forces have marched on Caen on the Allies' left flank. With the capture of the two launching sites in France, the Allies may be said to have made substantial progress. Thus twenty days after the initial assault, allied forces have established a firm beachhead, which includes almost the whole of the Cotentin Peninsula and a major port. Cherbourg's liberation came after a final day of fierce fighting in the north-western part of the city.

* * *

The tide has definitely turned and it is heartening to read General Eisenhower's

spirited order of the day to the crusading army

But this is the year 1944 Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940 41 The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats in open battle man to man

Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground Our home fronts have given us overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men

The tide has turned. Free men of the world are marching together to victory I have full confidence in your courage devotion to duty and skill in battle

We will accept nothing less than full victory Good luck And let us all beseech the blessing of the Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking

* * * *

THE THREE THEATRES OF WAR

The allied landing was in itself a great and formidable performance Since then there has been stiff fighting and the desperate resistance put up by the enemy has doubtles taken a heavy toll on either side But it is clear the Allies have so far registered steady progress in all the three theatres during the month

The Expeditionary Force which landed in France has established itself in Normandy General Alexander s armies are sweeping up the Italian Peninsula and the new Russian offensive against Finland has met with phenomenal success While this is so in Europe Japan in the East has met with a major naval reverse in the Pacific and the course of the battle of Burma has also gone against her

THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE

The third anniversary of the outbreak of the Russo German war finds Russia in admirable spirit Russia has no doubt bled heavily but she can look back with satisfaction to a series of victories Stalingrad Kharkov, Orel Vyadma Smolensk Leningrad and Viborg are so many shining lights in the dark path she has trodden" The Red Army has launched a new offensive in the Vitebsk sector This had been a stronghold of the Nazis guarding the gateway to White Russia and the cutting of railway between Vitebsk and Orsha coupled with the capture of Minsk, the capital of the Soviet Republic of White Russia seem to herald an irresistible summer offensive along familiar lines

THE FALL OF ROME

It was just this second front that Hitler was dreading, that Stalin was urging and all the world was expecting It would be well nigh disastrous if such an expedition had to be got up in a hurry without adequate preparation That would be courting another Dunkirk and the United Nations were determined to avoid such a contingency Nor could this be strictly called the second front For already allied arms in North Africa had mopped out enemy forces from that quarter Another front on the Italian mainland has for five months chased the enemy from pillar to post, until on the 5th of June Rome the eternal city, fell into the hands of General Alexander like a ripe apple The liberation of Rome was indeed the first great step in the ultimate liberation of Europe and the victorious armies are still marching northward leaving little time or opportunity for the enemy to re group his scattered forces The losses on both sides were heavy, said Mr Churchill the Allies losing about 20 000 and the Germans about 25 000

Since then the island of Elba ten miles off the coast, has been occupied by them as another possible springboard for attack on the European mainland

THE FAR EAST

In the Far East, allied success has been equally pronounced. The relief of Imphal by the allied troops is a great blow to Jap prestige. The Dimapur road has been cleared of any vestige of the enemy. Indeed the situation on the Assam-Burma border has completely changed for the better since the anxious days of April last. The Fourteenth Army has frustrated Japanese plans to isolate General Stilwell's forces and defeat the major allied objective to open the road to China. And in the process, it has inflicted severe casualties on the enemy to the extent of 140,000 killed. After a bitter ground assault for three days assisted by deadly bombing from the air, the Chinese 38th Division and Chindit troops completely captured Moganng. As Sir Andrew Clow, Governor of Assam, declared. "British India can be regarded as liberated and our forces which were fighting in Kohima and the Naga Hills are well into the Manipur State."

The second allied victory is the successful landing of American forces in Marianas in the Central Pacific and the losses inflicted on the Japanese fleet. This success may have far reaching consequences on the progress of the Pacific war.

Thus the series of successes on *all fronts* has put a new spirit of confidence in allied ranks which has been truly reflected in the recent speeches of Mr. Churchill:

"Full victory may come this summer", predicted the Prime Minister. "It may be that events will occur in the next few months which will show us whether we are soon to be relieved of the curse which has been laid upon us by the Germans", said Mr. Churchill. "The end will be more terrible for our foes the longer their struggle continues."

Some Thoughts on Education After the War

BY LAURA GRAVELY, M.I.D., A.C.P., MONTESSORI DIP.

MOST people have at present a strong feeling that radical educational reform is needed after the war, but do not trouble to form clear ideas as to the direction and extent of the desired reforms. Yet the waggon of time proceeds, leaving behind all those who are not ready for the journey. We shall not be on the side of peace and progress if we accept pre-war standards in our educational institutions when victory is won. The need of to-day is a challenge to our imagination and ingenuity. Old ideals such as "play the game", "be brave", "endure", "do, and die and not reason why" are noble enough—except the last—but they need to be supplemented if we are to solve the problems awaiting us. And the need of to-day is for men and women who combine courage with imagination, strength with a sensitive heart.

We must face the fact that the unimaginative courage of good people has condoned and committed much evil, and the domination of strong, insensitive people has sown the seeds of which we are to-day reaping the bitter fruit.

The school of the future must do better than the school of the past. It must fit our children, not for the world as it is but for the world as it ought to be. Social and political reforms must be prepared by educational reform or they will lack foundation. Those of us who remember the period following the last war, so aptly symbolized by Galsworthy's White Monkey with the rind of a sucked orange in its hands, shudder at the thought of such hopeless disillusionment overtaking humanity once more.

Every parent and teacher, and indeed every decent human being, desire that after

this War all the nation s children not only the privileged shall be given an education which afford them the fullest possible deve lopment of body mind and soul We want them to learn not only what will help them to earn a living one day but *how to live* This is our goal We must not be satisfied with less But how do we reach it? Which roads do we travel along to get there? As in the *days of Pestalozzi the* school coach needs not only repair it needs to be turned unto a new road

The first imperative refor i is one of educational outlook —If we could once and for all make up our minds that the purpose of our education must be the growth of persons whole persons much would be gained Any system we employ must be relevant to the child s physical mental and spiritual development as well as the specific social need of our time We must not allow ourselves for economy s efficiency s or sake to departmentalize the child or concentrate only on certain aspects or fragments of his life Education involves the whole process of living during twenty four hours of the day—sleep food rest play as well as work it involves an environment in which he is always at advantage All our new schemes must be based on a recognition of this wholeness

Evacuation must have taught many British teachers a new lesson about the needs of the children they taught needs not confined to school subjects but demanding personal relationship For persons grow through relationship in a community which gives them sufficient security and sufficient freedom to prove their worth

The first consequence of this stress on children as persons—and *whole* persons—would be the *immediate abolition of large classes* in our schools The mass of some forty children must necessarily be depersonalized to a certain degree and *mechanical methods employed*

To begin at the beginning One of the first reforms we should effect would be the *provision of Nursery Schools on a national scale* This would secure a good foundation—good feeding and medical inspection at a critical time of a child s life—and would help to bridge the present gulf between school and home Treating children in wholeness and bringing them up in community—two of our most urgent reforms—are basic principles of the Nursery School

Herbert Spencer about eighty years ago defined education as preparation for complete living We accept this definition adding that while training *for* a complete life education must *be* a complete life No child should be starved or thwarted at any stage in order to prepare him for the next since the best possible training for the future is ever to live fully now

This consideration has an important bearing on the curriculum It is our aim that every child should enjoy rich and satisfying experiences in school embracing such varied activities as explor ing understanding the sensation of free vigorous movement the handling of all sorts of tools and materials and the oppor tunity of working out his creative ideas We must *free our children from a purel y verbal education* for *man learns not by memorising but by doing* We must see that everything we try to teach is given personal relevance becomes an *integral part* of the child s experience accepted equally by his intellect and emotions Such *a new intelligent view of the curriculum would imply a new attitude to the examination system* This unhappy much debated system has arisen from a social system which has now been weighed and found wanting When as we hope will happen in future days the balance between intellectual and manual workers is redressed we shall no more find it necessary to put false value on intellectual achievement and will be able *to relegate* examinations to their proper place in our schools—internal non competitive tests applicable to certain types of intelligence and achievements only There is too much of the highest value in human life which cannot be tested by examinations for the prominent position they have at present

In his recent book Christocracy Middleton Murry visualizes the reorgani zation of Britain on a basis of true communities in which the interdependent members live peacefully together aware of the infinite duty *of each to all* Such democratic community life is largely

in Denmark, the country of my birth, where it has been based on an original system of popular adult education on Christian principles in Folk High Schools, and has borne fruit in co operative activities noted by all the world. To achieve this end Middleton Murry advocates among other things *free and equal primary education*. This would doubtless be a real advance towards healthy personal and community life and should not be difficult to realize.

When we come to rethinking post-primary education our task is much harder, yet not beyond solution if we agree to the suggested revaluation and discard the notion that a purely intellectual type of education is better than other types.

Our first reform here would be *the raising of the school-leaving age to sixteen years* at least, and we should like to *continue what has been called "educational care" to eighteen*. But before we discuss these plans, we must ask ourselves a question: What is post-primary education for? For the acquisition of culture or vocational training? Obviously for both. We must not forget that one of the main interests of the adolescent is the real world with its real jobs. His education should, therefore, centre in the conception of training for a useful function in the community, with real service at its roots. If he is brought up to think of work as service to the community, and studies the significance and implication of the function he is drawn to and fit for, he will as he carries out his project find his interests broadening into ever-widening circles linking him with all these other men of the community, and the world. He will acquire culture.

Provision must naturally be made for the boy or girl, fitted by aptitude for the function of handling abstract ideas, lest such ability be wasted. The community needs all types of men, the scholar as well as the farmer. In every case it is important that the pupil should know the full social significance of the job he is training for and come to view his work as opportunity for service.

Close contact with farm, factory and business would be needed, and all the members of the community would be fellow-workers with the schoolmaster. The last years of school—sixteen to eighteen—would be considered as a kind of educational apprenticeship, spent partly in school and partly on the farm or in the workshop.

Such an apprenticeship would need financial aid, but that should not discourage us, since we are concerned with the development of personality, with human not economic efficiency.

Much of our *thought and energy would be directed towards obliterating the distinction between hours spent in and out of school* and in achieving harmony between them. In this we should seek full co-operation with the home. Our community school would be a centre of education for families. *We would call on parents to contribute* to the teaching in fields where they had special knowledge, and invite them to receive such instruction and help as we could give them in evening classes and clubs. In this way education would be freed from undue professionalism and the community life strengthened.

By providing opportunities, academic as well as practical in and out of school, we should seek to make of every child not only a bread-winner, but a live citizen, capable of playing his part with vision, vigour and courage in the life of his country and the world of his day. *The patriotism we should seek to foster would be the critical loyalty of developed individuals which acknowledges the inter-dependence of races of diverse gifts, not the exclusive nationalism which separates man from man.*

Believing that education is essentially a thing of the spirit, beginning and ending in religion, we would expose every child in our schools to "the purifying fire of religion" to use the expression of a modern mystic. Unless we have faith in human beings and love for them, unless our minds have come to grips with such great conceptions as the Kingdom of God and the Brotherhood of Man, we shall find these tasks beyond our strength. But all things are possible for him who believes.

ACHARYA P. C. RAY

BY MR LEHAR SINGH MEHTA

(Addl Dt and Sessions Judge Udaipur)

SIR PROFULLA Chandra Ray the last of Bengal s versatile giants born in the 19th century passed away on Friday evening 16th June 1944 at the age of 83 The death of this great scientist distinguish ed educationist and noted philanthropist not only creates a void in the public life of Hindustan but removes from our midst one of India s greatest sons

Life to Sir Profulla was a gallant adventure He was born on August 2 1861 Quite early in his life at the age of 10 he came out of his village and joined the Hare School at Calcutta After some time he went to Albert School where he was unquestionably the ablest student He passed the Matriculation Examination in 1879 Then he joined the Metropolitan Institution founded by Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar His success in Gilchrist Scholarship Examination offered him a unique opportunity to proceed to Europe He entered Edinburgh University in 1882 and obtained the D Sc Degree in 1888 on a thesis on Inorganic Chemistry Soon after this the University Chemical Society elected him as its Vice President At the close of 1888 he returned to India and became Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the Presidency College Calcutta In 1916 he was appointed in the Capital of Bengal as the Director of the Chemical Laboratories in the University College of Science In 1936 he was assigned the responsible post of Emeritus Chair of Chemistry in the Calcutta University He was made a C I E in 1911 and Knight soon after the last World War

Sir P C Ray was a Scientist of international reputation His researches undoubtedly were of the highest order For several decades his pre eminence in this field remained unchallenged To him belonged the credit of raising India in the esteem of the scientific world Possessed of bewildering intellect he achieved conspicuous success in the discovery of mercurous nitrite Again he made a thorough study of the organometallic compound with the Scotsman s trick of success He founded a school of investi gators occupying perhaps the foremost place in our academic institutions Who does not know that a stream of research work began to roll on and on and on from his Laboratory ?

Sir Profulla did not pursue science in a mere academic spirit though of course intellectually he was always bigger than his task He was a powerful inspiration behind numerous industries He wanted not merely a profession of industrialists but a nation of industrialists—a noble dream He was the founder of Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Institute which is undoubtedly the foremost work of its kind in the East today He urged repeatedly that with the excellent natural advantages in India it would not be necessary to depend on the imports of foreign countries in the matter of chemicals It was his ceaseless endeavour through sunshine and storm that promoted the application of science for India s material progress

He was never a man of ease In his frail figure was centred a heroic spirit which knew no fear and counted no sacrifice too great His ideal of life was neither rest nor cessation from struggle Long years of failure would not sour him age would not dull the edge of his blithe spirit Perhaps none would hesitate to say that this doughty soldier and votary of the motherland posses ed of unquenchable passion for work ought to be described as the Hero Scientist Like Newton Darwin Einstein Raman and J C Bose he had to wage many a tough fight to obtain recognition in the unknown region of science

Sir Profulla was the man of very simple and frugal habits and was the very embodiment of the ideal of plain living and high thinking His sweetness of temper endeared him to his friends and foes alike In personal intercourse he was singularly attractive Probably he never spoke a harsh word and was never guilty of an unkind deed He was a well of Indian purity and truth—a well whose waters never served any growth save what was noble and

worthy. Neither egotism nor jealousy would affect him. Above all, he had the gift of inexhaustible good humour. He never exaggerated nor over-estimated. You can sit down at his feet and learn simplicity, unselfishness, candour, sincerity and honesty.

Though an eminent scientist, he was truly a religious man. His religious creed was like Holmes'. War and violence were opposed to his conception of religion He raised his powerful voice, on more than one occasion, against race hatred and religious bigotry. His vision was clear enough to see that science does not disturb religion and that the throne of God is to be seen in every molecule. His scientific researches did not lead him to materialism. On the other hand, they illumined, informed and intensified his faith in God.

Sir Profulla was a professional optimist. He is the spirit of high and noble comedy. He looked at life with that robust and wholesome optimism that keeps the vision true and mind sweet. But he was the kind of optimist who faced the world's pain and sorrow, saw it all, felt it all and was still full of faith and hope. In his faith there was no hint of trembling It had wings more powerful than eagles'. It is of the late Lord Salisbury that he sometimes reminds one. Lord Salisbury, it was well said, was like the leader of a lost cause, resolved to fight on, though well assured that nothing but defeat awaited him. The ship may be doomed but we can still steer it. He would not carry the sunshine of his happy spirit into the soulless home of the forlorn.

His interest in education was of a comprehensive character. His life-long and intimate connection with the Calcutta University is rather admirable. As a member of numerous educational institutions, committees and faculties, he worked with infectuous energy and singleness of purpose. He inspired thousands of young men to pursuits of higher intellectual attainments. He was a model professor and his record in this line cannot be easily beaten. Teaching was the very breath of his life. His devoted labours for the Indian School of Chemistry, the Indian Chemical Society and the maintenance of Research Fellowship in the University College of Science, founded by Sir Ashutosh Mookerjee, will be long remembered with thankfulness. Besides, he was intimately associated with the National Council of Education, Viswa Bharti and Hindu University, Benares. Throughout his career he maintained the highest tradition of the ancient Indian Guru.

His scientific achievements are great, but his grateful countrymen will not forget his efforts to enrich India's social, political and economic life. He was a sturdy nationalist. His activities during Swadeshi movement and partition of Bengal and his bold attitude during the Punjab disturbances showed how genuine was his interest in the political advancement of India. He reiterated from hundreds of platforms that researches could wait, industries could wait but Swaraj could not wait. He loved rural people after the fashion of philanthropists. He feels for the sorrow he sees. He helped, through thick and thin, the constructive programme of Mahatma Gandhi. He was an ardent propagator of Cottage Industries. He stood for the complete Civic and Political emancipation of women. When Bengal was overtaken by devastating floods in 1922 and appalling famine in 1943, he organised relief works perfect to a point. There was no public calamity in this country during his lifetime wherein he did not spend himself.

Sir Profulla was one of the most widely esteemed sons of the motherland, who played a dominant role for about half a century. He was our pride. He was our glory. His funeral took place on the banks of the holy Ganges, a few yards away from the spot, where Tagore's remains were cremated three years ago. Must we not believe that a thousand years hence, it will be said that Tagore and Profulla, whose ashes sleep side by side, were the two Indian giants, who in the middle of the 20th century, did most for the world's literature and for the world's science? They loom before us as in statues like some tall towers by the sea. The world was their country and to do good was their religion.

LAND MORTGAGE BANKS

By Mr S V RAMAMURTI, CIE, ICS

LAND Mortgage Banks can serve two purposes—one the negative purpose of removing an accretion of unproductive debt and the other the positive purpose of making land a means of creating wealth The more indebted a person is the greater is his liability to sink into debt like a man caught up in a patch of quicksand By organised effort he may be helped to save himself The greater part of the achievement of Land Mortgage Banks has been in this direction The War has itself helped to wipe out debt by the fact that produce which hardly left a margin over subsistence now pays well to cancel debt It would be interesting to conduct a survey of rural indebtedness after the War so that the ground might be cleared for positive activities of Land Mortgage Banks

Land labour and capital are stated to be the three means of production By long term mortgage of land at reasonable interest, you can both keep the land and gain capital What then is needed is an intelligent, energetic and fruitful use of one's labour, both physical and mental I have recently met a young man who is a graduate of the Agricultural College who said that any one who could not make agriculture pay nowadays must be deficient in intelligence What is easy now is also possible after the War, though with greater labour and foresight The decrease in transactions which is said to reduce profits should be a cause for satisfaction and an opportunity for effort in a different direction

Land improvement is bound to play an important part in the years to come after the War We are all glad to see that after the strain of five long years, the world is beginning to see the dawn of the end We, in India have been fortunate in having escaped physical contact with War though we have not escaped and could not have escaped the economic and other indirect effects of War Our thoughts in this country as elsewhere in the world are turned to a quick and large scale development of our economic resources Science has been achieving new vistas of action The *tempo* of men's minds has changed The moral objectives of men are no longer consistent with a few living well, while the many lack the necessities of life A new Science of Agro biology teaches that the world can produce from land four or five times the amount it now does and can feed four or five times the present population of the earth, without any nation feeling the need to be conquerors or coolies We, in India have never sought to conquer unless it be in things of the spirit as when we give our religion and culture to our neighbours in Asia The resources of India are inexhaustible because the ever living source of power, the Sun, blesses us more perhaps than in any other country with an equally intelligent population With the advent of science, our agriculture should be the base of a new story of wealth through industry Indeed I have often thought that every agricultural crop should pass vertically through industrial process into more and more mobile products for the use of man While water intensifies agriculture hydro electricity helps industry Both agriculture and industry can be developed in our waste spaces by intensive eradication of ill health and

infertility. I trust that for the measures which the Madras Government are investigating to increase the wealth of this Province and thereby the social amenities which the people may enjoy, the full human resources of the Province will be available. No efforts of the Government can have the measure of success that is needed to help the whole people, unless all the people seek to harness their vision and energy for the purpose.

The credit that is based on land is as vital as the energy that is derived from water or the power that is derived from the Sun. Land, Water and Sun—Pridhivyapasthejamsi—are the major partners of the five elements that are at the basis of the world and take part in its growth. I trust that the economists of Land Mortgage Banks will take their share along with scientists and engineers in achieving the economic development that we dream of.

SOCIAL SECURITY IN INDIA

BY MR. M. H. SHAH, M.A.

RECENTLY considerable interest has been roused in the matter of improvement of social conditions of the people. In the campaign of economic and constitutional reforms, the social side of our life was not given its due place until recently. Of course, efforts were made to check child-marriages, to encourage widow-remarriages and so on but that was merely scratching the surface of social reforms. The vital issues were not touched.

The deteriorating conditions of the lower classes of the population drew the sympathy of the social workers and others towards them. The success of socialism added further support to the need of improving the condition of the above classes. Moreover, world wars demonstrated the importance of these in the national machinery. Slowly schemes for their benefit were evolved.

Social security is a phrase that gained currency as a result of these schemes. If every man is to do his best for himself and for the nation, he should be ensured security of service and livelihood. If he is left to himself in his struggle of life, there will hardly be any stimulus to goad him to exert himself for the nation. Perhaps he may not be free from his struggle to fulfil his wants to devote himself to the other aspects of life.

One more reason can be adduced to the recent enthusiasm shown for schemes of social benefit. Man has reached a stage of civilization when it should be possible for him to devote a fraction of his time to the nobler activities of life—activities other than those of meeting his wants. The evolution of mankind should offer chances of better and higher type of life for mankind. What is the difference between a man in the stone-age and a man in the machine age, if the latter has to waste all his time for providing himself and his family with the most elementary needs of life? Naturally therefore with the advance in civilization, man expects greater leisure. This expectation is made possible by the scientific discoveries, which offer devices of producing large stocks within a short time.

The aim of all social security schemes is the provision of security of income to the individual, *i.e.*, of making it un-

necessary that anybody should ever be in want Their aim is to make want unnecessary in any circumstances The ideal is certainly very ambitious and laudable With the disappearance of want will disappear many other troubles which make life unhappy Want is the root cause of many evils as discontent is the cause of all progress We need not enter here into the discussion of the fine shades of distinction between discontent and want

The proposal to relieve mankind from want implies many things First of all want arises as a result of the absence of the source of livelihood secondly it is felt owing to the interruption or cessation of one s earnings thirdly want arises if one is not able to maintain one s family within one s regular income These are the three implications with which the security plans have to deal

Let us consider first one of them want resulting from the absence of the source of livelihood This implies either lack of remunerative employment absence of earning members in the family or one s incapacity to engage oneself in any remunerative work The first problem itself is very difficult Is it possible to provide jobs to all those who are in need of the job? In other words can we root out unemployment from this world? Social security demands this whether we can do it or not Every man must be ensured of his livelihood if he is prepared to work Secondly even if we can secure jobs for everybody there may be families where there would be absence of earning members Such families might include very old people women and orphans The question of women will not be so acute elsewhere as it has been in India where traditions do not encourage women s labour at least in the upper strata of society Some sort of special arrange ment will have to be made for them in the social security plan of India The third group requires careful planning The question of beggar relief has recently assumed much importance This question will be solved if a solution of the third group is arrived at This group will include all disables infirm old and orphans along with children students and others who are not of working age

Coming to the second group we have to face the difficulties of temporary unemploy ment owing to the interruption or cessation of one s work It is difficult to check the changes in the volume of employment trade or commerce Hence it is also difficult to do away with the second difficulty in the social security plan However it is possible to reduce its evils to the minimum by a careful adjustment during the periods of transition This will reduce the number of cases requiring help in this group For the genuine cases benefit amount will have to be provided for the period of transition

Coming to the third group we find that the majority of our population lives in want owing to this factor The *per capita* income of India is very low the propor ion of earners to dependents is also very high and the size of the families is also large owing to the joint family system All these factors perpetually keep the majority of Indians in want With great struggle they can make both the ends meet Even in those countries where the *per capita* income is several times greater than that in India want owing to the insufficiency of one s income is not absent In fact there is a slow but a steady migration

of people *from lower to upper classes* and thus the increasing standard of life causes want. India's case is most pitiable in this matter.

Incidentally we may touch the population problem of India as it has very close connection with the standard of life and want. Leaving aside the controversy whether India is over-populated or not, we can say that there is great need of putting the check on the growth of our population and of utilizing our increased income towards raising our standard of life. The propaganda in this direction has not touched those who badly stand in need of it. The upper classes are found benefited by this propaganda with the result that population goes on increasing in the classes where it should not, and goes on decreasing in the classes where it should increase, thus lowering the general cultural level of the country. The lower classes stand in great need of limiting their families for their need to raise the standard of life is most urgent. Therefore in the social security plans for India, plans for balanced and reasonable growth of the population should find an important place.

To sum up, social security plans for India imply removal of unemployment, provision for temporary unemployment, beggar relief, old-age pensions, plans of reasonable and balanced population, growth and increase in the standard of living. No social security plans have been formally put forward for India. Of course, the items to be dealt by social security plans are discussed in one way or the other by the various post-war reconstruction committees. It is time that they should be put together and a well-thought-out social security plan put forward for India.

We are familiar with the famous Beveridge plan. It would not be out of place to say here something about the object and methods of the plan. The object is to provide security of income through a scheme for compulsory insurance for which this plan divides the population into six groups, most of which are similar to those mentioned above. Certain common needs like medical treatment, funeral expenses, etc., are provided in common for all these groups, while the rates of benefit for various groups in various contingencies have been provided. Some such plan is necessary for India.

The greatest defect in India's economic structure is the uneven distribution of nation's dividend among various classes of population. India's *per capita* income being very low, it is necessary that it should be more evenly distributed. This fact deserves to be constantly borne in mind while framing social security plans, if these plans are not to fail on the bedrock of half satisfied want.

Only the nucleus of ideas round which the social security is to be built in India has been provided here, in this article. Every idea requires to be studied and developed. Before closing, the urgency of social security plans for India and the need to co-ordinate efforts of various post-war reconstruction committees may once again be emphasized.

CONSUMPTION CONTROLS

By Mr V R KRISHNA RAO M A M Litt

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THE object of war economy is to direct available resources to the production of such goods and the performance of such services as are necessary for successful prosecution of the war This is achieved by utilizing the unused productive capacity consuming domestic capital liquidating foreign assets borrowing abroad and by diverting productive factors from peace time use to war purposes As a result of the employment of the unused resources and of the competitive demand for labour the civilian consumption will tend to increase and one of the first problems in war economy is to check this tendency But it is not sufficient merely to prevent the civilian consumption from rising A fully developed war economy implies a reduction of civilian consumption to liberate maximum resources for the war effort

This object can be best secured by the curtailment of money demand by a combination of increased taxation delibe rate promotion of savings and restrictive measures on consumption including the complete stoppage of imports and of production of certain category of consumers goods The margin of income which could not be spent as a result of direct restrictions on acquisition of consumption goods increases the volume of savings which could be used for war effort The control of consumption is not only neces sary for effective mobilisation of resources for war purposes but it is essential for an effective enforcement of price control which has to be introduced to prevent rise in the cost of production and in the cost of living It must be stated that no price control can be effective in the face of the rising demand on dwindling supplies unless they are effectively aided by rigorous control on demand Therefore the stricter the price control the more rigorous must be the restrictions on demand

These restrictions serve a very vital purpose In the interest of war effort it is essential to maintain the health the efficiency and the morale of the civilian population and rationing and other methods of consumption controls are used to ensure an equitable distribution of the curtailed supplies such as foodstuffs etc

While the price controls cannot be effective unless there are quantitative controls over demand and supply these price controls are necessary even after the imposition of quantitative controls The price controls render the rationing effective in spite of the differences in income levels

We shall now outline the methods of consumption control The first stage of the curtailment of consumers demands is marked out by sharp increase in direct and indirect taxes and by an encourage ment of savings by the sale of war bonds and saving certificates In some countries like England these measures have been supplemented by compulsory saving In some other countries like U S A a novel method of absorbing the purchasing power is adopted by means of encouraging the consumers to make instalment payments towards titles to durable goods such as dwelling houses motor cars etc in the post war period

The most common method of keeping down the money demand of the consumers is the *steep increase in taxation* and in particular direct taxation But sales taxes

are much more efficient than income-tax in withdrawing the purchasing power and have been adopted widely in the continental countries of Europe. There are serious limitations to the method of taxes, for the persons in higher income groups can maintain their level of consumption by dis-investment. This difficulty can be met by restricting supply or by limiting the individual demand by rationing of goods and services. The measures of the first kind are:—(1) total prohibition of the manufacture of a certain category of consumption goods, (2) restriction of the range and varieties produced, (3) limitation of output to a given percentage of pre-war output, (4) the prohibition of the use of certain raw materials and (5) restriction of the quantities released for the manufacture of consumers' goods. But control of production will not be alone effective. It has to be supplemented by measures which directly limit the consumers' demand. The measures adopted are —(1) purchases under a licence, (2) sales taxes and (3) curtailment of consumers' credit.

The prohibition plus licensing of purchase represents the most extreme form of rationing and differs from the rationing of non durable and semi durable consumers' goods. The first is based on the assumption that the majority of the population can do without the commodity in question, while in the case of the latter category of the goods, it is assumed that they are indispensable for the health and efficiency for the whole population. For example, food and clothing fall under the second category. The extent to which the consumption of food can be reduced without undermining the health of the nation is extremely limited and in the case of India it is obvious it cannot be reduced. Therefore the problem of food rationing is a problem of distributing short supplies in an equitable manner. Rationing is one form of consumption control and its effect on price depends on the degree to which it is co ordinated with the other methods. Rationing, by itself, by limiting demand, makes it possible to maintain prices lower than would otherwise be.

Another method by which consumers' demand can be restricted is by allowing the ordinary market mechanism to function and by allowing the price of scarce goods to go up. The operation of free price market mechanism will lead to inflation and will effect very adversely the poorer section of the populations. That is why everywhere free price mechanism has been discarded in favour of controlled and rationed war economy.

Summing up, we may say that consumption controls are necessary to liberate maximum resources for war effort and these take the form of steep increase in taxes, both direct and indirect, deliberate promotions of savings either by voluntary or compulsory methods, controls of over-production and lastly rationing of goods and services.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

LAGOONS AND BACKWATERS

By Mr L D RAMACHANDRA AIYAR

THE numerous and long backwashes that dent the West Coast of India off the Arabian Sea waters form the cheapest highway for traffic in the whole world These are distributed among the States of Travancore and Cochin but the former is lucky in having the maximum length of them This is indeed fortunate for the progressive State for 80 per cent of the total value of Travancore s exports arises from cocoanut and cocoanut products and backwaters form the sole means of transport Manufacture of coir from cocoanut fruit husk is the major industry of Malabar

The total mileage of navigation channels in India is 8 800 two thirds of which are distributed between Bengal and Madras The West Coast of the Madras Province claims a good deal of it

Many tourists have yet to discover the immense attractions offered by the palm fringed lagoons and evergreen forests The eastern boundary of the State abounds in mountain heights that wall in the State Towards the west the country undulates over hills of dense vegetation till it reaches the cultivated plains which skirt the backwaters and the Arabian Sea The broad coast belt—for Travancore possesses nearly 150 miles of coastline within an area of 7 625 square miles—and the shores of the backwaters are covered with dense cocoanut plantations

At some points especially in the north wherever feasible and without any prejudice to their use for navigation backwater areas are reclaimed for paddy cultivation which is extensively carried on

The broad lagoons or backwaters forming the cheap highway for traffic from the extreme north as far south as Trivandrum are connected by navigable channels along the entire littoral with numerous streams and rivers flowing westwards towards the sea These form the most characteristic feature of the West Coast Extremes of temperature are unknown here—these two States constitute the Low Countries of India—and a warm humidity always prevails Extensive canal system connected with the backwaters offer considerable water frontage of immense importance to merchants for transport of goods

The most picturesque spot in this beautiful stretch is easily in the neighbourhood of Quilon an important commercial town of Travancore State where the tail of the backwash expands and loses itself into a grand eight armed lake This reminds the tourist of the celebrated Loch Lomond of the Scottish country

Between Varkala—the seat of the famous shrine of Janardhana—and Trivandrum the backwater canal worms across the ghats There are two tunnels each nearly a mile long and the boat journey in and out of these is a thrilling experience

Thousands of river craft of all kinds laden with cocoanut husk—the raw material feeding the fibre industry—ply their way across the waters Swift moving canoes of various sizes engage in

fishing and convenient houseboats, with roofs in matting and proof against all weather conditions, do a brisk trade in merchandise.

Numerous power-driven tugs and launches carry passengers bound for the many important towns that dot the water-ways. They run to scheduled timings and regular service is assured, except during the heavy south west monsoon period, when it is not quite safe. There are a number of jetties at regular intervals in the neighbourhood of towns where, within the fifteen minutes or so allowed for the stop, the passenger can step across for a quick snack. Most of the motor boats have different classes of accommodation and the fare is certainly the lowest in the world, working out to about an anna for ten miles! The most enjoyable run is between Alleppey and Ernakulam, a distance of nearly 60 miles, and the journey is entirely across the blue lagoons extending to a breadth of over six miles at some places. A pleasure cruise in this route is as good as any in any part of the empire. Tourists who 'cover' West Coast without this experience miss a real treat. The rippling blue waters bordered by swaying palms, the 'islands' of cocoanut groves that peep out of the waters here and there, the passing boatmen's ditties and ribald jests, the fishing yachts with their mammoth dragnets, all cap an interesting holiday. Emerging out of the territorial waters of Travancore, the launch chug-chugs its way into Cochin, passing across the Cochin Harbour and Willingdon Island. The best tip for a cruise is a full moon night. The sunset deepens into twilight and the night clouds rising over the palms cast their long grey shadows across the shimmering waters. Twinkling lights shine along the shore from the interminable chain of tea-shops and from the cottages come voices and merry laughter.

Many of the power-tugs have now been taken over by the military and are keeping a ceaseless vigil, patrolling the famous Cochin Harbour and the neighbourhood. The numerous backwaters, so eminently suited for surreptitious landing, are sufficient prizes to tempt any invader, but thanks to the preparedness evident wherever the writer went, the Jap has not an earthly to stir up trouble here. For, this once vulnerable spot of our long coastline is now ready to face and defeat any attempt at invasion.

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THE AMERICAN CHARACTER

By Mr ARTHUR M SCHLESINGER

[This question posed many years ago by a Frenchman in America has never ceased to be challenging Why has an American come to be as he is? What are his instinctive reactions to life? How does he differ from the people of other lands? What in fine makes the distinctive American character? Mr Schlesinger's discussion of this interesting thesis reproduced in that fine American Pocket Journal *USA* will be read with interest —Ed *IR*]

MANY Europeans have tried to describe and appraise the American character and the composite portrait that emerges deserves thoughtful consideration The attributes most frequently noted are a belief in the universal obligation to work the urge to move about a high standard of comfort for the average man faith in progress the eternal pursuit of material gain an absence of permanent class barriers the neglect of abstract thinking and of the aesthetic side of life boastfulness a deference for women the blight of spoiled children the general restlessness and hurry of life always illustrated by the practice of fast eating and certain miscellaneous traits such as overheated houses and the passion for rocking chairs and ice water

This inventory, so far as it goes reveals qualities and attitudes recognizably American But it doesn't go far enough Not only is the list incomplete but it fails to distinguish the significant from the trivial What is more little attention is given to the reason why this special combination of traits and attitudes is characteristic of the American people

And yet the answer really is simple An American is the product of the interplay of his Old World heritage and New World conditions

The Old World heritage consists merely of that part of European culture which was shared by the people who settled in America They and their ancestors were artisans small tradesmen farmers day laborers—the firm foundation upon which rested the superstructure of European cultivation Shut out from a life of wealth leisure and aesthetic enjoyment they tended to regard the ways of their social superiors with misgiving if not resentment and by the same token they magnified the virtues of sobriety diligence and thrift

This then was the type of human breed upon which the untamed New World exerted its will Other influences also affected the transplanted European The act of quitting a familiar life for a strange and perilous one demanded uncommon qualities of hardihood self reliance and imagination

The conditions thus offered by an undeveloped continent fixed the frame within which the American character took form Farming was the primary occupation At first resorted to by the settlers to keep from starvation it quickly became the mainstay of their existence This apprenticeship to the soil made an indelible impression on the developing American character with the following results

First and foremost is the habit of work For the colonial farmer ceaseless exertion was the price of survival Probably no legacy has entered more deeply into the national psychology If an American has no purposeful work on hand the fever in his blood impels him nevertheless to some form of visible activity As one traveller

put it: "America is the only country in the world where one is ashamed of having nothing to do."

This worship of work made it difficult for the early Americans to learn to play and left them indifferent to aesthetic considerations. To the early American farmer, a tree was not a symbol of nature's beauty but an obstacle to be reduced to a stump and then quickly replaced with a patch of corn or vegetables. The cult of beauty, in other words, had nothing to contribute to the stern business of living: it wasn't "practical". The bias thus given to the national mentality lasted well into America's urban age.

On the other hand, the complicated nature of the farmer's job, especially during the first two and a half centuries of American history, provided an unexcelled training in mechanical ingenuity. These ex-Europeans and their descendants became a race of tinkers, daily engaged in devising, improving, and repairing tools and other things until they had the power and habit of invention.

The early American farmer's success in coping with his multitudinous tasks aroused a pride of accomplishment that made him scorn the specialist or expert. He was content to do many things well enough rather than anything supremely well. This was a marked contrast to the European custom of following permanent occupations which often descended from father to son. This versatility became an outstanding American attribute.

Distances that would have daunted the stoutest-hearted European deterred the early American not at all. Many families living on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean migrated from place to place until the second or third generation reached the rim of the Pacific Ocean, some 3,000 miles away, and the next one began the journey back toward the Atlantic.

Geographic mobility accompanied a still more fundamental aspect of American life: social mobility. Instead of a graded society in which each class everlastingly performed its allotted function, Americans found that everybody might become somebody, that every man had the right to a free and fair start. The government existed principally as an umpire to supervise the game with a minimum of rules. The upshot is a conception of democracy rigorously qualified by individualism.

It would be a mistake to think of the American merely as a mechanism set in motion by dropping a coin in the slot. Foreign commentators have found it difficult, for example, to reconcile worship of the Almighty Dollar with the equally universal tendency to spend freely and give money away. The fact is that for a people who recall how poor their ancestors were, the chance to make money is like sunlight at the end of a tunnel. It is the means of living a life of human dignity; a symbol of idealism rather than materialism. Hence the American has had an instinctive sympathy for the underdog, and even persons of moderate wealth have gratefully shared it with the less fortunate, helping to endow charities, schools, hospitals, and art galleries.

The energy that enters into many of these movements is heightened by another national attitude: optimism. It was this quality that sustained the European men and women who with heavy hearts left

their ancestral firesides to try their fortunes in a strange and far off continent

It attains its most blatant expression in the national love of bragging At bottom this habit springs from a pride in a country of vast distances and mighty elevations and from an illimitable faith in its possibilities of being great as well as b g

This facility for overstatement has given a distinctive quality to American humor In the United States humor has never been part of a general gaiety of spirit It has had to break through a crust of life thick with serious purpose Hence it has had to be boisterous and bold del ght ing in exaggeration incongruities farcical effects and the practical joke

The period of urban and industrial predominance which has highlighted recent years of America s history is short as compared with the long impact of ruralism upon the American mind But already several reversals of older attitudes are apparent

One is the importance which Americans have come to attach to cultural achieve ment The ancient prejudice against useless accomplishments could not long withstand the compelling opportunities offered by the city In such centres are to be found the best schools the best newspapers the best churches and virtually all the bookstores libraries publishing houses concert halls art galleries and theatres There too America makes closest contact with the vital thought of Europe and as the urban influence became uppermost Americans commenced to make contributions to scholarship science and literature

The American character as we at present know it is thus a mixture of long persistent traits and newly acquired characteristics Based upon the solid qualities of those Europeans who started life anew across the Atlantic it assumed distinctive form under the pressure of adaptation to a radically different environ ment Probably none of the traits may be described as peculiar to the American people but the sum total represents a way of life which is unlike that of any other nation

CHINA AND INDIA

BY DR SIR S RADHAKRISHNAN

CHINA and India have met and in fluenced each other for over two thousand years but they always met as friends and partners in the pursuit of learning and the cultivat on of virtue and not as exploiters and conquerors This war has brought them closer and I have no doubt that in the decisive years following the victory they will work for an enduring peace and welfare of the world They have passed through many sorrows and have learnt from them a little understanding and tolerance qualities that will be most needed at the Peace Conference The earth is heaving and shuddering and the future is big with unknown things

There is a suspicion that the war is yield ing to its inherent cruelty cruelty and narrowness of vision and the Allies are not all agreed on the objectives of the war except the one of crush ng the enemy On the questions of Poland, Yugoslavia,

India and the colonial possessions in the East, there seem to be strong differences among the Allies. The policy of let us defeat the enemy and leave the rest to chance of Providence will not work. It will be to betray the hopes of millions out of whose endurance, pain and death, victory is being won.

The principle of race equality, which was negatived at the last Peace Conference, will have to be accepted. If the values for which China and India have stood for centuries are not a title to equality, the heroic resistance of China and the military achievements of India in the battlefield of Africa, Europe and Asia, at any rate, will compel recognition. The freedom of all nations and of races, the Balkan States and the possessions in the East will have to be seriously considered and conceded. A world organization will have to be set up, backed by an international police force, if it is to be more influential than the League which fired only blank cartridges. Many of the key positions in the world will have to be internationalized, if we are not to repeat the blunders of the past; the progressive elements in the Allied nations, which are far in advance of their Governments, will have to control the Governments and see to it that the future is made safe in this noble enterprise. China with her age-long traditions of pacificism and tolerance will have a great part to play. With all my heart, I wish her well.

THE LONELY MOON

BY MR. B. G. R. KRISHNAMMA

One night in June,
The lonely moon
Peeped through my window pane,
And asked me why,
I sit and sigh,
For youth to come again.

"Are all the tears,
Shed through the years,
The heart break and the pain;
The faded gleams
Of vanished dreams
Worth having once again?

When I was young,
My heart it sung,
Brave songs of love and life,
Quite blind to pain,
To mist and rain,
My eyes saw not the strife."

"My friends and I,
With n'er a sigh,
Quaffed deep the wine of life.
At beauty's shrine,
We drank the wine,
We never saw the strife."

"The hand of fate,
Knocked at their gate,
And severed friendship's bond,
And once so gay,
Then gone away,
Into the strange beyond."

The spring of youth,
Of very truth,
Has long ago run dry,
And that is why,
I sit and sigh,
Fair goddess of the sky."

Aesthetics and Economic Welfare

By Mr P. K RAMANUJAM M A

SOME eminent economists contend that Aesthetics and Economic Welfare are mutually exclusive and incompatible, that the one could be promoted only at the expense of the other Calculating businessmen believe that while the evolving of a means of livelihood is an absolute necessity, the studying of an unproductive antiquity or landscape is an idle luxury. They ask with an air of grave concern, "Ought we not to love the grey and stern evidences of man's conquest of the material more than the picturesque evidences of his stagnation? The materialistic age of smoke and steel has destroyed the natural environment of trees and shrubs and other objects that once used to stimulate the imagination of the poet and the antiquarian Planned cities, massive buildings with their sky scraping, smoking chimneys, well laid out broad roads, railway extensions have taken their place Natural beauty has been killed as unproductive to give place to profit considerations Verily, aesthetics and economic welfare are conflicting elements and the former can make no contribution to the latter. So sang our economic Pandits

But Sir Josiah Stamp emphasizes his entire conviction that "indifference to the aesthetic will in the long run lessen the economic product, and the attention to the aesthetic will increase economic welfare". His conception of aesthetics includes historical, antiquarian and archæological interests, natural beauty and amenity.

Analysing the contribution of aesthetics and its consequences, Sir Josiah finds, that an appeal to the eye and the touch creates a sense of history and perspective Objectivity and illustration create an excellent impression and knowledge of these objects more than a wandering in abstractions and descriptions The interaction between sight and thought in giving birth to knowledge is best illustrated in the study of architecture A visit to the Taj Mahal gives the best description of its beauty more than all the volumes that sing its praise When we see the building, immediately our mind runs to think about it We see at once that it is a monument exhibiting the condition of the times, civil history, social developments, folk lore, ecclesiastical conditions geology, art craftsmanship, and evolution of beauty, progress in mechanics and engineering and all the other problems that come as a revelation to us Every bit of concrete reality that we see for ourselves can "teach us more of man, of morals, evils, and of goods than all the sages" and books can. Christopher Wren understood the truth of this contention when he stressed that objects of interests and beauty of architecture are conducive to the creation of a better public spirit and "communal *esprit de corps*". Sir Josiah concludes that a wider possession of historical perspective is essential to balanced judgment of social evolution—and this is essential to the wise development of democratic institutions and thus to sanity in economics—then objectivity and actuality are the main gateway to that sense of history we value so much".

The next proposition is, that man's productive capacity could be increased

efficiency if his faculties are exercised in a balanced way. The maximum economic product will be at its best only if man gives himself to an all-round exercise of his *faculties*. One-sided and specialised activities tend in the long run to impair his efficiency and ultimately reduce the gain in the total output It is here that the aesthetic figures pre-eminently as an essential element in a "balanced economic activity". Relieved from the dull monotony of his routine, one spends his leisure in varied minor activities and interests which act as a tonic to his nervous system. He seeks relaxation from the tenseness of his serious occupation in the parks that lie in his neighbourhood. Or he goes out on a holiday to visit some of the historic places that may catch his fancy. It is the lack of such facilities that makes him fatigued, less sagacious, more excitable and irritable. The diversion of his mind to certain definite objects and scenery secures his mind from a fit of aimlessness which naturally leads to demoralisation. Therefore both economic and humane considerations necessitate the preservation of places and objects of antiquity, beautiful areas and natural scenery, which are the sole contributors to mental rest and directly to physical fitness along psychological and physiological lines.

In some of the busiest towns where space is a precious economic factor, these considerations have not been ignored. The best has been made of the bad job. "Lungs", that is to say, open spaces adjoining the busiest streets have been beautifully *laid out with flower beds*, paths and seats. In some others, an artificial river passes along reflecting in its mirror the genius and skill of man in the towering domes of massive buildings. Still in others, some new extensions are garden cities which are the last word in health and comfort. What greater contribution could aesthetics make to solve the vexed questions of the health of the lower, middle and factory classes and the production of maximum economic goods?

The third consequence is the aesthetic as an ingredient in maximum human enjoyment. The production must be so distributed among a variety of commodities that the greatest total utility or satisfaction in consumption may be obtained. Man is not stagnant. Progress and civilization satisfy not merely old and primitive desires but also create and satisfy new ones that arise from education and cultivation of finer instincts. That community is richer which devotes its wealth to the satisfaction of a number of desires rather than spending its entire resources upon a few concerns of profit and business ends. We apply the same principle to the production of aesthetic wealth. Our aesthetic products should be so varied that the monotony of looking at one object may be avoided. We enjoy most where we witness a varied nature and environment. The law of Substitution has to be adapted to aesthetics too. A full and varied life gives maximum satisfaction, but with one essential difference. While an economic good is either used up or transformed into other goods for further production, aesthetic wealth is preserved. For, in preservation lies its consumption both by the present generation and by posterity. Ruskin believed that preservation was an act of education, the more valuable it became the longer it was preserved.

Therefore objects of natural and historical interest do have an important economic value and not to foster and protect their aesthetic value is an arid and short sighted economic policy Our civilization has suffered both morally and intellectually from a suppression of the aesthetic sense Unless we exercise our aesthetic activity the world is not glorious to us Our education is not complete unless the finer instincts in us—the instinct to see and love nature and beauty—are given the fullest scope for development When one perceives the beauty of anything he is exercising an activity of the spirit whether it is a beauty of nature or beauty of art

When aesthetic and economic considerations come into conflict the former must naturally have the upper hand for private advantage must be sacrificed for communal benefit So the conflict is really between private gain and public advantage It will be a high form of socialism to relieve the individual of some private consideration for a communal advantage Vandalism for business ends will not pay in the long run even judged by economic tests Our economists have to correct the modern political economy of quantity by a political economy of quality for none of them have shown us till now the limits to public expenditure whether a beautiful city is an investment or an extravagance

THE GOLD LOCKET

BY MR DEVIDASS B KAPADIYA

HIS Majesty The Emperor Shah Jehan had just finished dressing He looked into the mirror adjusted the magnificent diamond necklace and turned to his beautiful tender wife Arjuman Banoo known to her subjects as Mumtaz Mahal She sat fondling her pet—a milk white kitten

So you were asking me about your new maid? said the Emperor Arju I somehow don t like that woman She has such a nasty look such intriguing eyes

But she is so obedient so well behaved argued the queen passing her hand over the smooth back of her pet

Dangerous people usually are answered the King One learns these things by experience with the world at large

' But Your Majesty she s so

' Well well! he returned good humouredly He approached her and patted her affectionately Keep her if you insist on it But he raised his finger in warning be a little watchful Being too trustful as your extreme simplicity and innocence often make you do is rather unsafe Especially with people of her sort He ended with emphasis on her last sentence

' You are so distrustful fretted the queen You

Beloved he interrupted kissing her hand I must go The people will be waiting for me So saying His Majesty left the apartment

To day was the day in the week when His Majesty gave audience to his subjects and imparted justice to those who appealed to him if they were in any way dissatisfied with the judgments of the Qazis of the court

Fatima! called the queen,

The newly-appointed, buxom, middle-aged maid entered and bowed obeisance.

"Give this little darling some milk," ordered Her Majesty forwarding the milk-white kitten. The old maid bent forward to receive it, but owing partly to her size and partly to her overworked affectations of keeping at a respectful distance from the queen she missed the kitten which soon bounced off.

The queen threw a swift glance of displeasure at the old maid and went to fetch the pet herself In one bound the kitten was out in the verandah. With astonishing alacrity, the queen followed it. The little pet disappeared behind a huge ivory flower-vase, peeped out from the other side and then sprang in the direction away from the queen as if she was dodging Her Majesty at a game of hide and seek. With equal quickness the queen chased it. She had hardly placed her hand on its soft woolly back when suddenly a shrill feminine shriek at a distance attracted her attention. "Help, help!" the voice repeated.

Startled, the queen noticed on the distant steps of the palace-gate a female form lying on the ground and beside her in an assaulting and threatening posture stood a tall, lean man in full livery.

"Obviously the palace guard," thought the queen. "But who could that woman be?" she wondered. And these thoughts flashed across her mind: "To day is the day of appeals. Perhaps the woman has come with some appeal and is not being allowed in. But why?"

"Fatima," she said, "run and inform His Majesty through his servant that we would like to see him in the private chamber behind the durbar hall. Run, you plumpy thing. Run. We are following you.

"But is it good for Your Majesty to. . . ."

"Fatima!" the queen almost shouted.

The short, buxom maid disappeared with an awkward sprint. Her Majesty followed, the milk-white pet leading the way.

Soon the word was conveyed to the Emperor who rose from his magnificent throne bedecked with multi-coloured precious stones. The appellants that consisted of peasants, merchants, clerks and people of all descriptions, stood up immediately.

The Emperor descended the steps and walked away indoors where stood the excited queen.

"Jahan-Panah," she said quickly, "I thought your doors were open to *all* for justice—strong or weak, men or women!"

Yes, of course. But what's the matter, Arju?"

"Nothing. I saw from above a woman being refused entry into your court. She was being roughly-handled, thrown down. A woman, Your Majesty! Beside her stood your palace guard staff in hand. That's all I could make out from a distance. I thought, Your Majesty with all the experiences with the world at large, had well chosen his palace guards!"

The Emperor smiled at the sting in her last remarks and patted her affectionately, the magnificent diamond on his finger flashing with dazzling brilliance as he did so. He said, "My Arju, you look so beautiful when you are angry!"

"But that does not solve my question!" she returned impatiently.

"Of course, of course," he answered coolly. "I'll immediately send for him

He will be duly warned It's quite unusual of him to have done such a thing for he knows only too well that to day my doors are open to all alike—rich or poor, men or women"

The Emperor turned to go

"Jahan Panah,' pleaded the queen I'd like to be present when that woman's case is being heard I feel strangely interested in it"

"Arjo, your request is rather unusual However, you may do so if you like

The King returned to his throne still wondering He sent for the woman as well as the gate keeper, Shamsheer

Presently both entered

"Shamsheer," roared the King, 'did you refuse to allow her in?"

"Sire' the tall, lean Pathan with whiskers Shamsheer Khan said respectfully "Sire I thought the woman '

"It's not for you to think," shouted the Emperor angrily ' Our orders are clear They admit of no buts and no excuses Everyone should be permitted and that is all You have disobeyed our commands, Shamsheer, you shall get your due Go ' The Emperor raised his finger and pointed to the door The Pathan with whiskers trembled With his head down, he walked away backwards as was the custom of the Royal Court

There was joy on the faces of the men in the durbar A suppressed murmur of praise for the King ran from mouth to mouth

'Woman," said the Emperor turning to the newly arrived lady—muffled in a black sari "You shall wait till we have dispensed with the cases on hand,"

The lady without raising her head, folded her hands and bowed respectfully. The eyes of the people were instantaneously focussed on her She stood nervously

The appeals of the people were heard and justice was done One by one, all departed not without casting a final glance of curiosity at the unnerved lady

Now lady" said the Emperor, "let us hear your grievances Arjo!" he called, "Will you come here?"

The beautiful Mumtaz Mahal walked in with stately dignity and went straight to the lady in black

'Sister,' she said, raising the nervous lady's head with her dainty royal fingers

It was a touching sight, the Empress of Hindustan addressing one of her poor subjects in so informal and intimate a manner 'Sister!" The word moved the heart of the poor woman, she felt embarrassed

What's your name?" continued the Empress What's your trouble? Oh, there's no vermilion mark on your forehead! So you are a widow in this bloom of youth! Tell us your story, sister. Speak Don't fear His Majesty will do you justice"

Tears flowed down the cheeks of the afflicted girl as these words revived her old memories Her once lovely fair complexion was now almost pale and bore signs of long suffering In answer she merely forwarded a little scroll with trembling hands

The queen received it passed it on to the Emperor and patted the girl in an attitude of motherly protection

The King glanced through the contents and raised his august head,

"Poor girl!" he said sympathetically. "So your name is Padmavati and you are the widow of one of our bravest soldiers who sacrificed his life fighting for us and helping us in securing the throne."

Mumtaz Mahal looked at the King and listened attentively.

"And now," the Emperor went on, "You are alone with your little son. And one, Mohammad Khan," he tapped his finger on that name in the scroll, "claims that you loved him and lived with him and on that account demands that you should continue to live with him. And the Qazi has decided the case in his favour because Mohammad Khan has proved the case by mentioning some marks of identification on the inner parts of your body."

The lady in black almost lifted her head with painful moist eyes as though she felt hurt at the mention of the last point.

"Well!" the Emperor looked at his astonished wife with a gesture of helplessness. "What can we do? The case is quite clear. The decision of my learned Qazi, considering the nature of the evidence, too is obvious. "The marks on the body," he hesitated to repeat these words, "well, well, you see, that proves everything, doesn't it, Arju? How can you disprove it, girl? How on earth. . . .?"

"But Jahan Panah," interrupted the Empress, "this is impossible. Absurd. Can't you see her face? With all your experiences with the outside world, can't you tell the guilty from the innocent? Can't you *see*? Can't you do some. . . ."

"Queen," answered the Emperor with the ring of a judge in his tone, "Justice depends on cut and dry facts."

"But I am sure. . . ."

"Personal conviction is a different thing," he cut in. "Justice wants facts."

He turned his eyes to the desperate woman and happened to notice a locket hanging on a black string round her neck. It was an oval-shaped locket of gold with a sword and a shield embossed on it. He stroked his short black beard thoughtfully for a while and asked, "What's that round your neck, Padmavati?"

"It's the souvenir of my late husband," murmured the woman, "Sire, my husband desired me to give it to my son when he grew up. He had said that it contains a message for my son."

"We see," returned His Majesty briefly and passed for a moment. And then as if a sudden inspiration had dawned upon him, he said, "So you always keep it nearest to you, on your body, don't you? You never part with it?"

"Never, sire!"

"And now, Padmavati, tell us have you any maid-servant in your service."

At this point the Empress swung her head majestically towards the Emperor and threw a queer gaze at him. He smiled.

"I had, sire," returned the woman in black. "She left my service only sometime ago."

"Can you describe her?"

"A short, stout, middle-aged woman with a somewhat dark complexion, sire."

"Ah! ah!" exclaimed the Emperor looking mysteriously at his wife. "Her name, Padmavati?"

"Jumna, Your Majesty."

"H'm!"

The Empress looked with amazement at her husband "But what has that got to do with the case?" she asked irritated.

"Just a moment, queen" Shah Jehan drew close to his wife and added in a significant manner, "You will see It's a matter of experience with the world at large, you know!"

"Well Padma" he went on, what work did the maid do in your house?"

"Attended to my child and sometimes helped me in my bath, sire"

"We see Now you may go Our escorts will take you home You should present yourself again on this very day next week But remember, he added in his royal tone, 'you'll stay in the inner chamber with Her Majesty, there' He pointed to the door of the inner chamber In there do you see? No one will stop you We will instruct our servants"

The girl with a curious mixture of anxiety and hope in her expression bowed respectfully and walked away backwards

The Emperor with his hand round his beloved queen walked into the interior. He lowered his voice and spoke in her ear "Arju be watchful about that old woman of yours See that she doesn't escape And remember," he cautioned her, "don't let her be with you on the next appeal day when Padma will stay with you here She shouldn t see Padma'

'But I don t understand you"

"Now, now," he patted her affectionately, "Don't be impatient Soon you will"

* * *

On the next durbar day the house was full as usual

In the inner chamber, Padmavati stood beside the queen who lay reclined on a soft couch which was framed in gold and studded with multi coloured jewels A dark thin damsel fanned Her Majesty while another held a gorgeous spittoon.

In the now emptied durbar hall outside a man with a burly frame, wicked eyes and well twirled thick moustache, was presently ushered in the presence of the King

'Ah Mohammad Khan' said the King, "you resemble our Shamsheer so well! Tell us something about you"

The burly man paid the homage of the court

'I am a soldier in Your Majesty's service sire"

'We have summoned you here on a charge of theft" added the Emperor

The burly man unconsciously raised his head and blinked Instantaneously a painful tug from the club of a man in livery from behind reminded him that his head had to be kept low before the King

In a sharp tone and swiftly the Emperor went on "Mohammad Khan you have stolen the gold locket of a woman named Padmavati You know what punishments we give to our soldiers in such cases? Have you seen the minarets with the heads of culprits on them? A head is too much a price to pay for a locket Mohammad Khan!'

The burly soldier felt a cold shiver creeping over him.

"Have you anything to say in defence? Speak," finished the King

'Sire," returned the accused respectfully, remembering the painful tug of the club and keeping his head low, "I swear

in the name of Allah, I don't even know a woman by name Padmavati. If I am permitted to say, sire, it's a false accusation placed before Your Majesty."

"Scoundrel!" thundered Shah Jehan with rage, "don't defile the name of Allah. You don't know Padmavati, eh! And you said before the Qazi that she loved you and lived with you!"

The Emperor directed a stern look at Mohammad Khan—a look which was not good for the culprit to see.

"Mohammad Khan," the Emperor went on, "scoundrels like you are a disgrace to my army. And now tell us who that stout old woman was whom you bribed for getting you information about the marks on Padmavati's body. Speak the truth."

The culprit felt shocked at this well-guarded secret being discovered by the Emperor. He shuddered.

"Truth never escapes Shah Jehan, do you hear?" added the King. The culprit's tone, when he spoke, indicated that he had realized that he was lost. "She was Jumna, my neighbour, sire," he added slowly.

"And is Shamsheer Khan, our palace-guard, anyway related to you?" continued the Emperor. "He bears such a striking resemblance to you."

"He's my brother, sire."

"So, so," returned the King, "That is why Shamsheer wouldn't allow the girl in. You three formed a wicked little gang—you, Shamsheer and Jumna! And we will certainly reward you well for the troubles you have taken!"

The Pathan with the wicked eyes, Mohammad Khan, trembled from head to foot at the sarcastic tone of the Emperor.

"Guards," went on the Emperor turning to four armed men, "Hold him well till we return."

Mohammad Khan stammered something and tried to throw himself on the Emperor's feet but the guards held him up.

The Emperor rose and swiftly went indoors.

"What's the matter, Jahan Panah?" inquired the queen eagerly.

"Nothing. I charged Mohammad Khan with having stolen Padma's gold locket," explained the King briefly, "and the poor fool blurted out that he did not even know a woman by that name. He pronounced his own doom, don't you see?"

The Empress looked at him admiringly while joy shone in the eyes of Padmavati.

"And now," said the Emperor without wasting time, "queen, we desire your Fatima to be called in here."

"But why, Jahan Panah?"

"You will see it soon," was the laconical answer.

And in a few moments Fatima was ushered in.

"Padma," said the King, "Can you recognize that stout woman?"

A gasp of astonishment escaped Padmavati, "Why, sire," she said "*That* is my Jamna!"

The Emperor turned with enraged eyes to the drooping Fatima.

"Faithless woman," he said severely. "you received bribes from Mohammad Khan and supplied him with the marks on your mistress' body. And, crafty wench, you thought that being nearest to the queen's person was the best way of avoiding any suspicion that might come

up later eh! You thought that changing from Jumna to Fatima would do the trick!

The Empress and Padmavati stood confused at the unexpectedly rapid turn the events had taken

The Emperor ordered Jumna to be removed outside to where Mohammad Khan stood Mumtaz Mahal with Padma behind her stood behind the curtains anxiously awaiting the result

Presently His Majesty passed the following sentence in his typical stern voice of a judge Two pits shall be dug One for Mohammad Khan and one for his accomplice Jumna Both shall be buried half in the pits and their upper half shall be perforated with arrows till the culprits are dead And Shamsheer our palace guard shall rot in prison for twelve years

When the culprits were borne away the queen followed by Padmavati entered into the empty durbar hall

Padmavati said His Majesty the Emperor Shah Jehan you know it's your gold locket that gave us the idea and saved you from infamy It seems to us that that souvenir of an honest and brave soldier will act like a talisman for you and guard you against all evils and misfortunes Preserve it carefully girl Now you may go Our escorts will see you home And remember Shah Jehan is father to his subjects His doors of justice are open to one and all alike

A tear of joy and gratitude glittered in Padmavati's eyes

Long live Your Majesties said she turning from one to the other of the royal couple I shall pray to God that Your Majesties reign shall be known to the future generations as a reign of Justice Peace and Plenty

And she turned to go

One thing more Padmavati added the Emperor in future be careful in selecting your maid servants He directed a significant look at the Empress who answered with a half smile suggesting that she was alive to his implications

And followed by the royal escorts Padmavati departed

With a miau Her Majesty's milk white pet materialised as it were from nowhere It raised its tail and rubbed affectionately against the royal feet The Emperor looked down at it then turned to his wife passed his hand round her and released a graceful smile

NATIONAL BIOGRAPHIES

INDIAN JUDGES

This is on the model of Earl of Birkenhead's Fourteen English Judges CONTENTS —Sir T Muthuswamy Ayar Nanabha Haridas Dwarkanath Mitter Mahadev Govind Ranade Sir S Subramanya Aiyar Sir V Bashyam Iyengar Badrudin Tyabji Sir Gurudas Bannerjee Sir P C Bannerjee Sarada Charan Mitra Sir Syed Amir Ali Kashinath Trimbak Telang Justice Mahmood Sir Romesh Chander Mitter Sir N Chandavarkar Sir C Sankaran Nair Sir Asutosh Mukerjea V Krishnaswami Aiyar Justice Shah Din Sir Shadi Lal and Sir Abdur Rahim

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INDIAN CHRISTIANS

Biographical and critical sketches CONTENTS — K M Banerji Lal Behari Dey Ramachandra M M Datta Rev Satthianadhan Dr Imad uddin Nelsemah Goreh K C Banerjea, Ramabhai Rajah Harnam Singh L D Swamikannu Pillai N V Tilak S K Rudra and Sadhu Sundar Singh *With fifteen illustrations*

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The Post-War Depression and the Way Out*

By Mr. P. S. NARASIMHAM, M.A.

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OVER the greater part of the book, Mr. Shenoy covers familiar ground. The title of the book is rather misleading. More than three fourths of the work deals with the problems of financing the war and of releasing enough real resources for the war effort, the post-war depression and the way out come in only at the end and are dismissed in less than thirty-five pages.

Mr. Shenoy's account of the factors that almost invariably lead the economy of a country into a depression in the post war period is clear and precise. If, as soon as the war is over, all the war-time controls are relaxed, there is likely to be a scramble both for finished consumers' goods and of capital goods. This scramble is likely to be aggravated by the fact that individuals, *entrepreneurs* and banks alike will possess at the close of the war a large volume of liquid funds in the shape of treasury bills, war savings certificates, etc. But all this financial opulence is a dangerous mirage as it hides the real fact that though the country is better off in terms of money, it has been rendered much poorer in terms of real resources by the war effort. The post war boom is, therefore, likely to be extremely short lived Soon wages, the prices of raw materials and the rates of interest will shoot up, many of the schemes of expansion initiated during the post-war boom period will turn unremunerative and be abandoned, and this will bring in its train the inevitable unemployment and depression.

What then is the way out? Mr. Shenoy suggests two remedies. The first is a stiff capital levy which will eliminate all the fictitious wealth created by the war and thus prevent the emergence of a post-war boom by reducing the volume of liquid finds available for investment. Mr. Shenoy hardly stops to consider the disastrous psychological effect such a capital levy is likely to have just when industry is trying to recover from the shattering effects of the war. So far as India is concerned, the case against a capital levy would seem to be decisive. What we need is a quickening of the pace of industrialisation and a capital levy is most calculated to delay it by discouraging, for the time being at least, private enterprise. In a country with considerable undeveloped resources like India, all the extra money created by the war can be prevented from having any inflationary effect and be most fruitfully employed in achieving a corresponding expansion in industry and output.

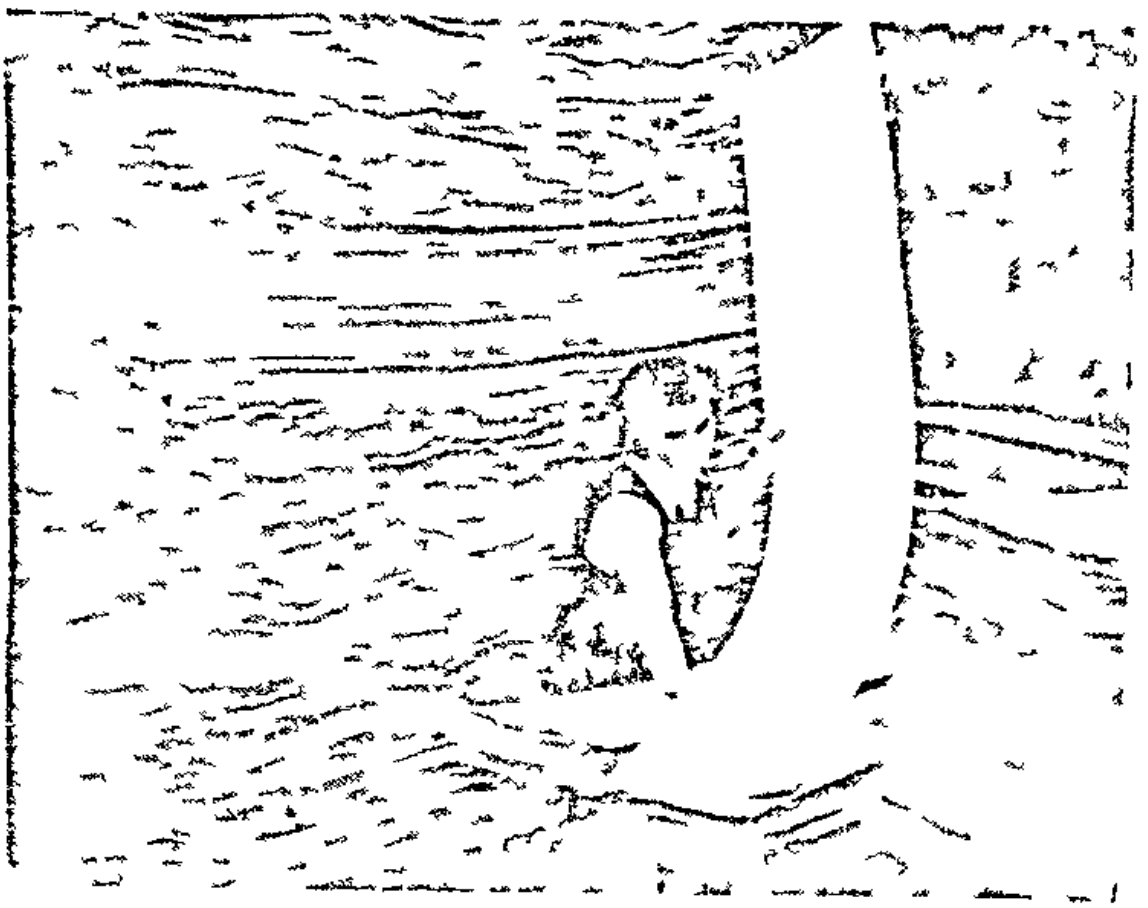
The other remedy advocated by Mr. Shenoy is less controversial and is indeed accepted to day by the economists and Governments alike as one of the basic principles of post-war planning. It is the continuation, for the entire period of reconstruction, of the war-time controls over consumption and investment. By the control of consumption, enough resources can be released for the production of the essential capital goods, and by the control of investment an unhealthy post-war boom can be prevented and the more important industries can be given a prior claim over the available productive resources.

Mr. Shenoy, one feels, has not emphasized adequately the fact that the problems created by a war and war time expenditure are likely to be different as between countries which are already well developed,

* The Post war Depression and the Way Out. By B. R. Shenoy, M.A., M.Sc. (Econ.), (London). Kitabistan. Rs. 3. Allahabad

and countries such as Canada Australia and India which have vast reserves of untapped resources He thus maintains that any attempt at economic expansion through the creation of credit which does not correspond to an equivalent voluntary abstention from consumption must necessarily lead to disaster (p 87) but it need not when the additional money brings into employment resources hitherto undeveloped Again he holds that the additional output which can be secured in times of war by taking in the slack or idle resources would be greater in the richer than in the poorer countries (p 48) but the margin so available must obviously be greater in the undeveloped countries with large reserves of unexploited resources such as Canada and India There are also one or two other points on which one would like to have more light We are thus told in Chapter VI that on the cessation of hostilities a boom is bound to develop as a result of the scramble for goods by the consumers and for capital goods by the *entrepreneurs* in the capital goods industries But is not this extra demand in the peace time industries likely to be offset partly at least by the sudden cessation of the huge war expenditure by the Government?

It must however be admitted that on the whole Mr Shenoy has given us a clear and readable account of the economic problems that are likely to arise both during the war and the period immediately following it and the lines on which these can be solved



FLYING PLY WOOD

This picture shows ply wood sheets little more than 1 16 in thick being inspected by a woman aircraft worker before being moulded and built up as the fuselage and the wings of the "Mosquito

Prof. ALEXANDER FLEMING—DISCOVERER OF PENICILLIN



Penicillin, one of Britain's great contributions to modern medical science, is considered to be one of the most important discoveries of medicine. This discovery was due to the keen observation—of a British bacteriologist, Professor Fleming, in 1929. It was not until 1940 that Professor Florey at Oxford obtained successful results in experiments with the drug and in 1942 amazing cures were effected upon patients suffering from serious infections. Penicillin acts with ease and certainty, and with a rapidity which is spectacular and dramatic. When it is possible to produce large quantities of the drug, thousands of lives will be saved. The picture shows Professor Alexander Fleming, F.R.S., discoverer of Penicillin, at work in his laboratory at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London. In front of him in glass dishes are specimens of the mould, from which Penicillin is extracted, growing in the cultural broth. Various stages of the growth may be seen.

Full of unwarranted and mischievous deductions built on finding motives other than those that are apparent from his language, and parenthetical glosses and distortions of truth

Gandhiji quotes extensively from the *Harijan* to prove the baselessness of the charge of pro Axis or defeatist tendency on his part He goes on to add

It is wrong to accuse the Congress of hindering war effort Congress activity up to the night of August 8, 1942, was confined to resolutions only The dawn of August 9 saw the Congress imprisoned. What followed was a direct result of the Government's action

It is clear that but for the arrests no such disturbances would have taken place as happened on August 9 The Government's action in enforcing India wide arrests was so violent that the populace which was in sympathy with the Congress lost self control The loss of self control cannot imply Congress complicity but it does imply that the power of endurance of human nature has limitations

Gandhiji demands the withdrawal of the indictment and the release of detenus

The Government know that the public in India seem to have distrusted the indictment and regarded it as designed for foreign propaganda Men like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru the Rt Hon Sastri and M R Jayakar have given their opinion that the "evidence' produced in the indictment is of no judicial value Therefore, the Government should withdraw the indictment I see from the preface to the indictment that the Government have in their possession "valuable evidence , presumably incriminating the detenus. I submit that, if the Government cannot safely divulge the evidence, they should discharge the detenus and bring to book those who, after discharge, may be caught in the act of committing or promoting crimes With limitless power at their back they need not resort to unsustainable accusations

But Government reply that the pamphlet was published for information of the public and not for the purpose of

convincing you or eliciting your defence It was supplied to you only at your own request and Government neither invited nor desired your comments

I am accused that I would exchange Japanese rule for British My non violence is made of sterner stuff Only a jaundiced eye can read such an emotion in the face of the clearest possible writings of *Harijan* that I would face all the horrors of war in order to end the horror of horrors which British domination is I am impatient of it because I am impatient of all domination I am in the grip of only one dominant emotion and no other—that is India's freedom

Government state that "the pamphlet contains no material misrepresentation of general trend of your utterances during the relevant period" and repeating that the disturbances are the "natural and predictable consequences of your declaration of an open rebellion and the propaganda which preceded it", refuse to publish the correspondence as requested by Gandhiji and to release the leaders

The Mahatma writes again repeating the offer to meet Working Committee members and demanding reference of the indictment to an impartial tribunal

As to "satisfactory assurances" about my "good conduct , I can only say that I am unaware of any unworthy conduct at any time I presume that the impression Government have of my conduct is referable to the charges mentioned in the indictment as I have succinctly called 'Congress Responsibility for the Disturbances, 1942 43 And since I have not only denied the charges *in toto* but on the contrary, have ventured to bring counter charges against the Government, I think that they should agree to refer both to an impartial tribunal Seeing that a big political organisation and not a mere individual is involved in the charges I hold that it should be a vital part of the war effort to have the issue decided by a tribunal if mutual discussion and effort are considered by the Government to be undesirable and—or futile

Government refuse to arrange for a meeting between Gandhiji and the Working Committee members

GANDHI-JINNAH LETTERS

The correspondence that passed between Gandhiji and Government regarding the interception of the letter to Mr Jinnah is also published Gandhiji says in the course of the letter

I am sorry for the Government's decision For my letter to the Quaid e Azam was sent in reply to his public invitation to me to write to him and I was especially encouraged to do so because his language had led me to think that if I wrote to him my letter would be forwarded to him The public too are anxious that the Quaid e Azam and I should meet or at least establish contact I have always been anxious to meet the Quaid e Azam, if per chance we could devise some solution of the communal tangle which might be generally acceptable Therefore the disability in the present instance is much more that of the public than mine

GANDHIJI'S LETTER TO MAXWELL

On May 21, Mahatma Gandhi addressed a letter to the Home Member, Sir Reginald Maxwell pointing out certain palpable inaccuracies and the latter's speech in the Legislative Assembly on February 15, 1943

Gandhiji contends

I have no reparation to make, for I have no consciousness of guilt And there can be no

question of assurances for the future when I hold myself guiltless.

I cannot cancel the Congress rebellion which is of a purely non-violent character. I am proud of it.

I wish to repudiate nothing of what I have done or intended I have no sense of repentance. For I have no sense of having done any wrong to any person.

The cry of "quit India" is intrinsically just . . suppression of popular exuberance by a frightful exhibition of power is no defeat. Satyagraha knows no defeat It flourishes on blows the hardest imaginable

GANDHIJI'S REPLY TO LORD SAMUEL

In the course of a speech in the House of Lords in April, 1943, the Rt. Hon. Lord Samuel, the Liberal leader and philosopher, thought fit to echo the sentiments expressed in the Tottenham pamphlet. Writing to His Lordship under date May 15, Gandhiji observes:

The report distressed me. I was wholly unprepared for your unqualified association with the one sided and unjustified statement of the Government of India against the Congress and me.

You are a philosopher and a Liberal A philosophic mind has always meant for me a detached mind, and liberalism, a sympathetic understanding of men and things.

As it seems to me, there is nothing in what the Government has said to warrant the conclusions to which you are reported to have come

And then he goes on to add:

The cry "Quit India" has arisen from a realisation of the fact that if India is to shoulder the burden of representing, or fighting for the cause of mankind, she must have the glow of freedom now. Has a freezing man ever been warmed by the promise of the warmth of sunshine coming at some future date?

Gandhiji makes it clear that

the disturbances that took place after the 8th August *were not due to any action on the* part of the Congress. They were due entirely to the inflammatory action of the Government in arresting Congress leaders throughout India and that at a time which was psychologically and wholly wrong.

The Government of India did not forward this letter to Lord Samuel.

GANDHIJI'S LETTER TO MIRA BEN

A document that, according to Mira Ben, "proves beyond a shadow of doubt that Gandhiji is cent. per cent. anti-Japanese" is among the correspondence published. It would appear that after the A.-I C C. meeting at Allahabad, in April, 1942, Gandhiji deputed Mira Ben to Orissa, for helping the Congress workers as a Japanese attack on the east coast was then hourly expected.

By a special messenger, she sent a confidential report, on which Gandhiji made out these points:—

(1) Complete non co-operation with the Japanese, (2) no willing submission to the invader; (3) people shall handle nothing from Japanese hands.

Mira Ben sent a letter to Lord Linlithgow on Christmas eve calling upon him in view of this unchallengeable proof to refute all the false and slanderous propaganda carried on by the British Press then.

The Government did not take any action, which is characterised by Mahatma Gandhi as "squeamish".

Gandhiji wrote to the Government of India on February 26, 1944, protesting against "persistent charges and innuendoes against the Congress" and called upon *the Government to publish the* Mira Ben correspondence.

Sir Richard Tottenham, in reply, stated that the "Government have never at any time, either here or at home, charged the Congress with being pro Japanese" and therefore the question of repudiation did not arise.

THE NEXT STEP

As we go to press (30th June) it is rumoured in Poona that Gandhiji has received a letter from H. E. the Viceroy in reply to his request that he should be allowed to meet members of the Congress Working Committee, or alternatively, that he should discuss the present situation with the Viceroy personally.

It is also stated that though the reply of the Viceroy is considered to be unfavourable yet as far as Gandhiji is concerned, it does not mean the end of efforts to establish personal contact with the Viceroy. Attention is also drawn to the fact that in reply to the address of a representative *group of Congressmen* in Maharashtra Gandhiji made it clear that the authority to launch civil disobedience vested in him by the August resolution lapsed with his imprisonment.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY 'AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Release the Prisoners

IN a letter to the *News Chronicle*, Mr Edward Thompson, the well known commentator on Indian affairs says: 'Mr Gandhi has been released as an act of compassion His colleagues should be freed as one of policy"

Urging their release for India s sake , Mr Thompson says,

the prisoners are universally known public figures Four years ago many were Cabinet Ministers and Premiers governing seven Provinces Despite censorship India s wretchedness has appalled the world and only Indians understand their problems

Mr Thompson also urges their release for the sake of the war and adds

the prisoners cannot meet and are in ignorance of all that has happened since they went to gaol and why? Are they to fester until we extort one side s apology made individually by men in separate confinement? And — some day — the prisoners will have to be released

Mr Thompson knows what value to attach to the protagonists of Government from the ranks of high placed Indians and he has no hesitation in declaring that official representatives handpicked by alien power have hardly any influence in India

He adds that the spokesmen of the Government of India lament that the war is waged on a background of sullen ness and concludes

Every one but ourselves knows that we have been judges of our own case and have controlled all means of expression The White Papers on the disturbances and famine are among the least convincing documents

The Paper Control Order

The newspaper control order restricting civilian consumption to 30 per cent of the 1943 level is a stunning blow to the periodical press in India 1943 was the fourth year of the war and already paucity of paper and high prices had brought down the level of consumption to bare sustenance To impose a further cut of 70 is a cruel joke on the periodical press The order has practically maimed many a journal and we shall not be surprised if it kills many others outright The order will necessitate many journals giving up their cherished features which ensured their success The *Indian Social Reformer* of Bombay, a weekly of high standing, appears as a single sheet—that is the ridiculous plight to which this well known weekly has been driven

In war time there may be need to economise paper consumption but this drastic cut of 70 per cent is so sudden that many concerns are well nigh desperate Are the Government sure that the maximum economy has been brought about in their own requirements? Have they done anything to promote local production, or to augment available supply? The public have a right to know that there is no waste in the shape of subsidies to worthless journals propped up in the name of propaganda at a time when the entire press is so hard hit

The fact is the present scarcity should have been foreseen and steps taken from time to time to minimise the shock of a sudden cut to this ridiculous extent If cut there must be in civil supplies we endorse the suggestions put forward by Mr B M Birla President of the Indian Paper Mills' Association

first to set apart at least 50 per cent of the local output for civilian consumption, gradually increasing the quota to 75 per cent and secondly, to facilitate production through larger supplies of coal better transport facilities etc

Judgment on Nagpur Journalists

In the ever widening range of punisha ble offences it is becoming difficult for the lay public to determine the exact border line between what is legitimate and what is illegal And yet ignorance of law is no excuse The sentence delivered against the *Hitavada* and *Nagpur Times* for publishing a report from their Jubbulpore correspondent concerning detenus is a reminder to the public that they cannot be too careful in their efforts to keep within the safe side of law when the frontiers of legality are being subjected to drastic revision in these days The convicting magistrate was perhaps within his rights in penalis ing the papers for their complicity in the matter. But a newspaper, as Mr A D Mani of the *Hitavada* pointed out, is worked in anonymity and it is practically impossible for the press to function if

members thereof are held severally responsible. When the declared editor is there to own responsibility for what appears in his paper there is no meaning in hauling up the subordinates.

The convicting magistrate set up a dangerous precedent when he went out of his way to say that a deterrent punishment was called for in order "to curb" what he called "the tendency to pry into Government secrets and divulge them." This is an unfortunate perversion of words. It is the business of the press, as a contemporary rightly points out,

> as the watch dogs of public life in the country, to seek, investigate and find out the whole truth about current happenings and activities of any consequence and it is wrong phraseology to characterise, this tendency as "prying" or "eavesdropping".

Prof. Hill on the Poverty of India

It will be remembered that Prof. A. V. Hill, Secretary of the Royal Society, came to this country during the closing weeks of last year to advise the Government of India on scientific matters. An acute student of science, he came with an open mind, moved intimately with Indian scientists and returned home, after careful study and investigation of the condition of the people in different parts of the country.

Prof. Hill has seen and watched with pain and anguish the appalling poverty of the masses of India, and in a letter to the *Times* he renders an account of the causes of Indian famine. He says

> 1. The mortality rate is four to eight times of ours. The expectation of life is 26 instead of 62.
>
> 2. Between 100 and 200 million are suffering from malaria yearly, and tuberculosis, cholera, smallpox, plague, guineaworm, filarial infection, etc, take their own toll
>
> 3. More than half the population are underfed and live on the verge of starvation.
>
> 4. Chronic malnutrition, acting with disease is producing a vicious circle of inefficiency
>
> 5. Despite this, the population is increasing at about six million annually

Prof. Hill concludes that "it is idle to talk of family limitation except as a long-term policy. The only hope of averting the tragedy is to get the co operation of all men of goodwill in the wholehearted development of India's resources by modern scientific methods."

The late Acharya Ray

The last of the great Victorian giants in India has passed away in the death of Acharya Profulla Chandra Ray. It is true he died full of years and honours and he had completely worked himself out in the service of science and the country. But that could be no consolation to his countrymen who will sorely miss the inspiration of his presence. In the death of Sir P. C. Ray, said Gandhiji who wished him to complete a century

> the country has lost a very great scientist and an equally great philanthropist. He was also a great patriot and friend of the poor. His spartan simplicity was a pattern for all, but more especially for the student world.

That tribute sums up Sir Profulla's many-sided activities. A scientist of international reputation, he built up more than anyone else the foundations of scientific education in Bengal, especially on the chemical side and took steps for the establishment of industrial concerns based on scientific researches.

As a reputed scientist, as a founder of the school of Chemistry in India, as an author of the "History of Hindu Chemistry", as a maker of industry, Acharya Ray's name has become a household word throughout country. His indefatigable services to the cause of the suffering humanity—his relief works—his quiet philanthropic contributions are, in fact, valuable assets of our national life.

Gokhale aptly described him as a "scientific recluse". He lived the life of a typical sage of ancient India: but he represented the all round progress of modern times. To the end he continued to be the ideal teacher, who inspired his numerous and far-famed pupils with a genuine urge for scientific research. He had been their friend, philosopher and guide.

Sir Profulla was a valued contributor to these pages in early years, and the Editor of this *Review* has pleasant recollections of hours spent in his company in the premises of the *Indian Review* during his visits to Madras. Sir Profulla, like Gandhiji, was versatile in his interests. He has left behind the example of a simple and austere life, selfless, pure and patriotic and completely dedicated to the service of his fellowmen.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By CHRONICLER

The Liberation of Rome

ROME fell on June 5 The fall of the eternal city is as distinct a stage in the triumph of allied arms as was Paris to the Nazis in the early stages of the war

With the capture of Rome the first Axis capital has fallen to the Allies and with it half of Italy

Its capture comes almost exactly four years after the day June 10 1940 that Mussolini from the balcony of the Palazzo Venezia in the heart of the capital announced his entry into the war and delivered his stab in the back to France It comes just three weeks after Gen Sir Harold Alexander launched his great new offensive across the Rapido river

The liberation of Rome also frees the Vatican city which the Germans took under their protection last October For the past nine months Rome has been under German rule The Germans occupied it on the night of September 8 9 last year

German Aid to Finland

The Finnish Government has officially announced that Germany had promised all armed help needed by the Finns for them to continue the war against Russia

According to direct information from Helsinki to the newspaper *Morgon Tidningen* German troops have since entered Helsinki preventing the Finnish Government from taking independent action As a consequence of this the U S Government have broken off relations with Finland

Italian King gives up Powers

King Victor Emmanuel on June 5 signed a decree transferring his powers to Crown Prince Umberto conferring Lieutenant Generalcy of the Realm on Crown Prince Umberto Marshal Badoglio Italian Prime Minister signed a decree in confirmation

King Victor made this promise on April 12 The promise provided for a formal transfer of power on the day when the allied troops enter Rome The Allies entered Rome on the 5th May General Beneivenga assumed military and civil command of Rome on allied authority

Plan for Post war Peace

Mr Churchill answering a question in the Commons whether it was intended that all the Allies were to consider the world plan for post war peace said We hope that the arrangements to be made for the maintenance of international peace and security after the war will be subject of consultations at the appropriate time between all the United Nations He gave the assurance that the Commons would be able to discuss the plan before it was finally adopted

Governor Dewey as Republican Candidate

Governor Thomas Dewey of New York has been nominated at the Republican National Convention as the Republican candidate for the Presidency after Governor John W Bricker of Ohio had announced his own withdrawal Governor Dewey carried all votes but one which went to General Douglas MacArthur Allied Commander in the South West Pacific

The vote was 1 056 to 1

Governor Bricker has been nominated Republican candidate for the Vice Presidency

Chinese Advance on Burma Road

The Chinese forces driving to re open China s lifeline with the Allies are reported to be only five miles from Tengchung the key town 20 miles west of the Burma Road and some 50 miles from General Stilwell s forces in Myitkyina Below Tengchung heavy fighting is in progress at a point where Chinese troops are six miles north west of the Burma Town of Lungling South west of Lungling other Chinese forces are advancing on the Burma Road town of Mangshih

Measures to Counter flying Bombs

The latest German menace or one of Hitler s secret weapons—the flying bombs—has been operating on an increased scale over South England for some weeks past Several have been shot down into the sea or on the fields

Measures for dealing with the flying bomb are being improved almost hourly They have already been extraordinarily effective When full facts can be released the measure of success so far attained is expected to be staggering says Reuter

DIARY OF THE MONTH

—:o:—

June 1. Eire Elections—De Valera scores a big majority.

—Allies take Malakung in N. Burma.

—Sir A. R Dalal is appointed to the Viceroy's Executive Council.

June 2. The Pope broadcasts from Rome deploring war horrors.

June 3. Sponsors of the Bombay Plan interview Mahatma Gandhi.

—Chinese capture Kaitov.

—Jap reverses in Kohima area.

June 4. The 5th Army enters the city limits of Rome.

June 5. *King Victor abdicates. Rome falls.*

June 6 Allied invasion of France—Second *Front begins.*

June 7. Allies' gigantic air assault on enemy positions in Europe.

—Further allied landings in west France are reported.

June 8. Allies capture Viterbo, Vetraica and Tarquine in Italy.

—The King and Prime Minister visit General Eisenhower at headquarters.

June 9. Signor Bonomi forms the new Italian Government.

—*American heavy bombers attack Munich* area.

June 10. The Government of India accord sanction for starting automobile industry by the Birlas.

June 11. Three Punjab Ministers resign their memberships of the League.

—*Allies enter Carentan in France.*

June 12. Caen in France falls.

—Russian advance in *Finland.*

June 13. Allies take Montebourg in France.

June 14. *Sir R. Maxwell is appointed* Adviser to the Secretary of State for India.

—Heavy fighting in Normandy.

—Use of Dardanelles by Nazi ships—British protest against Turkish connivance.

June 15. American super Fortresses bomb Japan.

—Gandhiji arrives at Poona.

June 16. Sir P. C. Ray is dead.

—Allies capture Kidima.

June 17. Allies land in Elba.

—Red Army reaches Mannerheim Line.

—Gandhi-Wavell letters released.

June 18. New Italian Government formed.

—Nazis fall back on Cherbourg.

June 19. Allies capture Tilly.

—Russians capture Viborg.

—Elba garrison surrenders—1,800 Germans taken prisoners.

June 20. Russians capture Viborg.

—Big naval battle off Mariana Islands.

June 21. Gandhiji's answer to *Government* pamphlet is released for publication.

—Maharaja of Parlakimedi, Orissa Premier, resigns from office.

June 22. Allied troops in Imphal contact enemy forces.

—Allies enter Moganng.

June 23. Bobrinsk defences broken by Russian troops.

—*Vitebsk, pivot of the German* front in White Russia, isolated.

June 24 Joint statement by U. S. Vice President Mr. Henry Wallace and Chiang Kaishek issued.

—Disastrous accident in Shillong Tea Estate.

June 25. Air attack on Marianas.

—Fifth Army takes over 36,000 prisoners.

June 26. American *forces enter* Cherbourg

—Indian troops in Rome received by H. H. the Pope.

June 27. Fall of Cherbourg—Completion of first phase of battle for Europe.

—Privy Council holds A. I. S. A. to be a purely charitable concern.

June 28. *Gandhiji addresses Maharashtra* Congressmen.

—Agreement between Germany and Finland.

June 29. American advance on Saipon island.

—Henriot, Vichy Minister of propaganda, assassinated.

June 30. U. S. breaks off with Finland.

—Allied army lands east of Orne estuary and occupy Cabourg.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

BRITISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDIAN STUDIES By Sir Atul Chatterjee and Sir Richard Burn Longmans Green & Co

Since the days of Warren Hastings not a few Europeans officials of the various services missionaries and archæologists interested in Indian antiquities have tried to probe into the mysteries of Indian philosophy religion and literature and translated them into English for the benefit of the world outside A striking feature of this noble work is the co operation of British and Indian scholars which has continued uninterruptedly down to this day

This phamphlet is an interesting record of the results of this meritorious work of co operation in the field of Indian research and antiquities—a common heritage of men of learning

SOCIALISM RECONSIDERED By M R Masani Padma Publications Ltd Bombay Re 1

In the two talks that comprise this book Mr M R Masani ex Mayor of Bombay and author of the picturesque little book—*Our India*—discusses the basic assumptions of socialism and the outcome of the overpraised experiment in Russia The Revolution which promised so much and was such a resounding success in Lenin s day has gone off the rails since Stalin took charge of affairs The Soviet is no doubt a powerful force to be reckoned with—as evidenced by its singlehanded defence against Hitler formidable engines of destruction—but it is no more the classless democracy of Lenin s dream Mr Masani therefore pleads for a modified form of socialism for India

DIAMONDS IN THE DUST By Douglas Lackersteen Kitabistan Allahabad Re 1

Military experts and political commentators have said a lot about the fall of Burma Mr Lackersteen is content to give a pen picture of men women and children who performed deeds of charity courtesy and self sacrifice in the course of evacuation no less meritorious and moving than the more dramatic incidents of war

THE MAHABHARATA STORY By Mr S Sitaramayya Retired Assistant Meteorologist Shenbagamir P O *via* Kodaikanal Road S I Ry

It has been truly observed that no work of imagination is so rich and so true as the Mahabharata in the portraiture of the human character and that it is an encyclopædia of the life and knowledge of ancient India There must be certainly many who are anxious to be acquainted with the contents of this great and immortal epic but the size of the book in the original and the English translation of it by the famous Dr Roy is likely to frighten the reader who may be a busy man and yet anxious to know the story

Mr Sitaramayya s book in which he very successfully indeed presents the whole of the main story in one handy volume including portions from the numerous speeches and dialogues that are inspiring and instructive and the main incidents of the eighteen days battle must be quite welcome to the general reader

ONIONS AND OPINIONS By N G Jog Preface by Robert Lynd Thacker & Co Bombay Rs 6 12

This book which takes its name from the title to one of the essays is a collection of 2o pieces in Cabbages and Kings line The topics range from Dictators and their shirts to cats and kisses Though most of these tiny essays had appeared in newspapers from time to time they have lost none of their charm and freshness by lapse of time Mr Jog has a fine sense of humour and a sure and easy style gives distinction to his witty comments on the commonplaces of life His is the type of writing that enlivens the pages of matter of fact journalism Mr Jog has succeeded in a very difficult task His bright and vivacious sallies on the foibles of our kind are a real tonic in these war weary times

THE NAYAKS OF TANJORE. ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY SERIES NO. 3. By V. Vriddhagirisan, M.A., M.Litt. Edited with introduction and supplementary notes by Rao Bahadur Prof. C. S. Srinivasachariar, M.A. Annamalai Nagar.

"The Nayaks of Tanjore" is a welcome contribution on the history of the Tamil country. Emperor Achyuta Raya of Vijayanagar put down the rebellion of his Southern Governor Vira Narasinga and appointed in his stead, his own brother-in-law as Governor of Tanjore. Sevappa, the new Governor, originated the dynasty of the Tanjore Nayaks in 1532 and it lasted till 1635, when as the result of the fall of the last Nayak in open battle against the neighbouring ruler of Madura, internal dissensions cropped up and led to the conquest of Tanjore by the Mahrattas, under Ekoji, son of Shaji Bhonsle. Achutappa and Raghunatha, the second and the third rulers, were the brightest jewels of the line and their successful administration was largely due to their Brahmin scholar-minister Govinda Dikshita. They were great conquerors and patrons of Telugu literature and Karnatic music.

The fact that the Nayaks of Tanjore were a Telugu dynasty of non-Brahmin rulers, right in the centre of a Tamil country, guided by Kannada Brahmins and helped by Muslim soldiers must be an eye-opener to the communal politicians of the present day who see India's political *moksha* only in vivisection. Mr. Vriddhagirisan has laid us under a deep debt of gratitude by his clear exposition of facts, correct chronology and sober judgment. Rao Bahadur Srinivasachariar has added to the value of the book by his helpful introduction and useful notes. The book has three appendices, a select bibliography and a map of Tanjore and her neighbours.

THE SCHOOLS OF VEDANTA. By P. Nagaraja Rao, M.A. Sayaji Fellow, Benares Hindu University. With a Foreword by Sir S. Radhakrishnan. Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 33-35, Harvey Road, Bombay.

In this small book, Mr. Nagaraja Rao attempts an ambitious programme. He tries in a preliminary essay to vindicate the value of philosophy. He passes on then to give a sketchy resume of the orthodox systems of Indian philosophy. Then comes a long chapter on Sankara, whose philosophy receives the most careful and adequate exposition of all the topics treated in the book. This is followed by a brief but provocative criticism of modern political and social ideals in the light of *advaitic* thought. The philosophies of Ramanuja and Madhva are then sketched somewhat summarily and in the barest outline. Three more brief chapters, one on the *Upanishads*, another on the *Gita* and the third on the *Vedanta Sutras* complete the book.

Mr. Nagaraja Rao's essays show not merely enthusiasm for his subject, but also wide reading and scholarship both in Indian and European thought. His writing is always clear and occasionally pointed. Sir S Radakrishnan in his Foreword says:

> Mr Nagaraja Rao gives us in simple and clear language the central features of the three systems. As an introduction to their detailed study, this book will serve a useful purpose.

BOOKS RECEIVED

BEVERIDGE EXPLAINED. By C. D. H. Cole. Vora & Co., Bombay.

RECORDS IN ORIENTAL LANGUAGES Book I: Perumpatappu Svarupam Grandhavari. Cochin Government Press, Ernakulam.

THE BRITISH PACIFIC ISLANDS By Sir Harvy Luke. Oxford University Press, Madras.

THE INDIAN PROBLEM 1833-1935. By R. Coupland, C.I.E. Oxford University Press, Madras.

CHANDRAGUPTA MAURYA AND HIS TIMES. Sir William Meyer Lectures 1940-41. By Radha Kumud Mookerji, M.A., Ph.D. University of Madras Rs 4

A HANDBOOK ON THE METHOD OF TEACHING ENGLISH written according to the revised syllabuses of Madras and Travancore. By Fr. Lazar, Superintendent, St. Joseph's Press. Manoalam, Travancore. Re. 1-8.

SYSTEM OF FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA. By P. J. J. Pinto, M.A., B COM., Ph.D. New Book Company, Bombay.

INDIA UNRECONCILED. A documented history of Indian political events from the crisis of August 1942 to October 1943. The Hindustan Times. New Delhi.

PUNJAB'S EMINENT HINDUS Edited by N. B. Sen. New Book Company, Lahore.

THE YOGA OF SRI AUROBINDO Part II By Nolini Kanta Gupta. Sri Aurobindo Asram, Pondicherry Re. 1-4.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

IQBAL AS AN INTERNATIONAL FORCE

In the *Calcutta Review* for June, Mr Dev Prakash Nayar MA, discusses Dr. Iqbal as an international force, in the light of his teachings He says

He (Dr Iqbal) has a right to be heard on international questions Freeing himself very early from the narrow bounds of nationalism Iqbal developed an international outlook True professedly he was trying to establish Islamic values and to establish a Pan Islamic order But his interpretation of those values is so enlightened that his system must form the basis of any sound international order For Iqbal was not a poet of the escapist type but one who had pondered long and deep on life

According to Iqbal the unit of society is the individual and the perfection of the individual is the centre of Iqbal's philosophy

Iqbal regards Khudi or self as a real and significant entity, which is the centre and basis of the entire organisation of life The attainment of a profounder individuality, of a better realisation of self should be the highest aim of man in every social system And no wonder, since it is the individuals alone who lead to the progress of the social order which has otherwise a tendency to become static The worst crime of dictators is the regimentation of the human intellect which puts an insurmountable obstacle in the path of progress

The development of the individual still remains with him the first concern, but this full development can result only from the active membership of a community The 'active membership' means the merging of individual selves in the service of great co-operative ideals and objectives which cements a collection of individuals into a genuine community When such a creative unity of outlook has been achieved it becomes a source of unlimited power both for the individual and the community Deprived of it the community becomes disorganised feeble dead Who would question this to day when international co-operation for certain broad principles is regarded as the first condition even for the continued existence of the world?

On the social side Iqbal preaches freedom and social equality. On the political side he would have no racial or geographical loyalties 'A saint, lost in God", he said, is neither Eastern nor Western; my house is neither Delhi nor Ispahan nor Samarkand"

This tends to establish internationalism, where *the basis of unity is belief in one God and* respect for one another's personality But if Iqbal rejects patriotism as an exclusive creed, which fails to give due recognition to the wider claims of humanity, he has the highest respect *for it when it means love for the best that one's own country or group has achieved the appre*ciation for one's own peculiar, cultural values and contributions as is visible in his 'Jawid Nama', 'Zinda Rood and Zarb i Kleem', for example This respect for the various cultures is a prime necessity Not only is it simple wisdom to make use of what others have achieved instead of imposing a deadening uniformity on them, it is also necessary for creating a world order since the various groups naturally love their various cultures so much that they will not accept a world order for long which does not ensure their cultural safety

THE FUTURE OF THE NEGRO

Aryan Path has an interesting article on the above topic by Clifford Bax who writes that the Negroes have passed through four phases First—and for many centuries—they lived on their continent unmolested by the outside world and probably as happy as most men have been, perhaps rather happier Then comes the period of capture, inhuman brutality complete subjection, and thirdly, the short period during which the black man was regarded as the essentially comic man, so that would be humourists presented themselves as "nigger minstrels" And now, *in our own time the Negro has infected* a large part of the world with his nervous and jerky dance rhythms . . What, then, of their future as artists? asks the writer

We know that the Negro can sing, act, dance and fight Some people assure us, not very convincingly, that there is greatness in Negro sculpture and Colerige Taylor a lonely figure, certainly wrote music with a highly personal idiom But at present no Negro has achieved wide *renown as a writer, and it may be that none* ever will The Carthaginians a powerful and talented race, seem nevertheless not to have had any literary ability or even instinct The Jews again—though this point would be disputed by many—excel more in the presentation than in the creation of art Every Irishman is a born actor, but it is the rarest thing in the world to find an actor who comes from Scotland There is no reason, therefore to assume that the Negro as the time of his liberation lengthens must of necessity become the equal of the White Man in every art and every science.

GANDHIJI'S RELEASE AND AFTER

Though Gandhiji's release might have been primarily actuated by his serious illness, it cannot be denied, says Mr. U. G. Rao in the *Asiatic Digest*, that the authorities must have at the same time entertained a fond hope that it might lead to some hopeful developments in the political sphere.

The famine, the food problem, the need for keeping up public morale while the enemy is knocking at the eastern door, the problem of securing the co-operation of the commercial, industrial and other important sections of the population in war-time needs and measures—all these must have led the authorities to conclude that what may be accomplished with ease by the people's trusted leaders becomes almost an insuperable task to an administration, divorced from popular sentiment

But Gandhiji alone cannot go far in solving the communal or political problem, however inclined he may be to appraise Mr. Jinnah.

Suppose Gandhiji meets Mr. Jinnah soon after his recovery, and they discuss the whole problem of communal settlement Upto certain stage Gandhiji may be able to carry on the negotiations by himself, but when it comes to a question of committing the Congress to any definite line of action, he will find it absolutely necessary to consult the Congress Working Committee and gauge their attitude

Should talks with Mr. Jinnah give no indication of hope and should Gandhiji turn his attention to the problem of a political settlement, even here a stage will be reached when it will be impossible for him to proceed further unless he can have discussions with the members of the Working Committee.

No doubt, Ganhiji has been fully empowered by the well known August resolution to carry on negotiations with H. E the Viceroy for a settlement, but it is one thing to carry on negotiations and quite another to take decisions on behalf of the Congress This latter, Gandhiji will never undertake without previously consulting members of the Working Committee He is too democratic to arrogate to himself powers which rightly belong in the last analysis to the Congress Executive and deliberative bodies.

As most of the members of the Working Committee, whose advice Gandhiji may need at any time, are still in jail, a piquant situation is bound to arise sooner or later.

He will never agree to consult members of the Working Committee while they are still under detention He may insist on their being released prior to any consultation and even earlier, and unless the authorities are agreeable, a deadlock will ensue Moreover, it is likely that Gandhiji, who would certainly not like to be at large while his comrades are suffering in jail, may choose to go back to prison.

DRAMA IN INDIA

In ancient India drama was conceived as but a method of imparting knowledge to the people, says Pandit Taranath in the June number of *Prabuddha Bharata*. It was not meant to excite but to educate, not to entice but to 'elevate.'

The Indian drama as such was therefore not meant to be amusing. It was that which used amusement to reveal verities.

If the verities of life can be so well embodied in words as to picture in the mind of the hearer the life of the world as it is and as it ought to be, there then is a feat of the artist. Such feats are not dreams of mere rhetoric, but were actually realized by seers like Vyasa and Valmiki. But when times changed, it needed the introduction of what are called *drishya kavya*, meaning 'visible poetry', *i e*, drama.

This was the origin of the drama in India. What then were the fundamentals of this great art then? The answer is not far to seek, when the function of the drama is to epitomize not only the world of actualities but also of the verities behind that govern them visibly or invisibly

To the Hindu, knowledge, therefore, is that which enables him to see the transient merge in the eternal by his transcendental vision. Herein is his bliss and the urge of life, the conclusion of all philosophy and religion too. To accomplish this is the function of great teachers and the *raison d'etre* of drama.

Drama, therefore, cannot logically be only the depiction of life as it is seen and lived on the surface.

The invisible other side as well, the undercurrent which life is oblivious of in pleasure and pain, should be suggested by it Then only can drama expand vision. It can neither be picture painting nor anything only didactic; the former has no lesson and the latter has no life. The one has nothing to teach and the other no appeal, having no touch with life

Life being what it is—neither pleasure nor pain exclusively—drama too cannot be wholly comedy or tragedy.

The purpose of it, therefore, should not be to represent life as optimistic or pessimistic but visionful if not transcendental. For instance, what use has the common world of a Buddha or a Christ if it cannot have a glimpse of the glory of their renunciation? It is that vision of the resurrection that makes the cross a bed of roses. And no drama can have a mission for the commonalty which has not that vision.

THE INDIAN QUESTION

In an article discussing the Indian question, the U S A Journal *Amerasia* says that the Hindu Mahasabha, the Indian Federation of Labour and Socialist Party are the only groups opposing political unity and denounces the Socialists' policy as aimed at maintaining the present deadlock, sabotaging national defence and intensifying economic demoralisation It says that Mr Jinnah is facing pressure from the Muslim peasants and workers who are

working to transform the League into a genuine popular organization with democratic control This mass following favours a democratic progressive policy and has no fear about co operating with the fellow peasants and workers in the Congress

They are rallying to the idea of full self determination within the larger framework of voluntary federation of autonomous States Parallel to this development, many Congress rank and file members are

coming to see that the granting of self determination to Muslims would strengthen rather than disrupt Indian unity and make possible a far stronger and effective demand for a National Government

The British shift on the issue of Indian unity is "perhaps the most convincing proof" of growing strength of the demand for a Congress League agreement on the basis of Muslim self determination Formerly the British chiefly emphasized on India's divisions with the Cripps proposal "even opening the way for the secession not only of Muslim territories but also for Native States from the proposed Indian Union" Now the emphasis has shifted to the recognition of the 'natural' unity of India Ethnic principles have once again been shaped to meet the political 'exigencies'

The paper cites Lord Linlithgow's speech of December 17, 1942, and Lord Wavell's Assembly address on February 17, 1944, wherein both emphasized India's 'geographical" unity and says

This new line in British official utterances is generally regarded as marking withdrawal of the British support from the League and a bid to the third most powerful political group the ultra conservative Hindu Mahasabha whose leaders oppose all compromise with the Muslims, and have fought fanatically for a united India under the Hindu rule

The *Amerasia* says that the British support to the anti Congress Indian Federation of Labour is also in line with the current policy. It describes Mr M N. Roy as the 'well known political opportunist who has long since lost the respect of the Indian people'

Referring to the aftermath of the Cripps Mission it says

Though the primary blame for the present deadlock unquestionably rests with the British controlled administration the fact remains that the Congress policy is also at fault It relied on unilateral negotiations and a negative policy of non co-operation, instead of seeking to form a united front with all the other parties and issuing a positive appeal to people to rise in defence of their country

The journal adds that the outstanding development during the 20 months of Gandhiji's imprisonment is

the growing trend towards unity As far as the aims of various political parties and groups are concerned there is almost an unanimous demand for the formation of National Government There is also increasing evidence that the Hindus and Muslims will be able to reach an agreement on the basis of the progamme of full self determination for all nationalities within the framework of a free Indian Federation

It says-

Against these encouraging developments, however, one must set the continued deterioration in the Indian economy, the bungling in administrative measures by the ruling bureaucracy, an atmosphere of frustration and bitterness which provides opportunities for dangerous work by the Fifth Columnists and Jap agents

The release of Pandit Nehru and other leaders "to permit Indians of all parties to come together to work for a common programme,' is the single and most important step that can be taken to remedy the situation

Despite the fact that leaders of both Congress and League still appear to distrust each other the rank and file of both the parties increasingly recognize that unity is essential if India is to win freedom and they are exerting pressure on their leaders

Mahatma Gandhi's statement that he is anxious to improve relations between the Congress and the League 'confirms the contention of all patriotic parties and groups in India that the release of political prisoners would have an immediate beneficial effect on the political situation,

INDIAN STATES

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Mysore

SURPLUS BUDGET FOR MYSORE

Mr. N. Madhava Rao, Dewan of Mysore, presented the *budget for 1944-45 in the* Mysore Representative Assembly on May 29. The estimates reveal a revenue surplus of Rs. 1 93 lakhs after transfer of Rs. 103·57 lakhs to Reserve Funds. In 1943 44, Rs. 199·96 lakhs was contributed to the Funds. The closing balance of the Funds on 30th June, 1945, is estimated at Rs 542·94 lakhs.

The State's *revenue and expenditure* will be affected by the Sivasamudram disaster, the Dewan said, but there has been no time to re-calculate the figures for budget purposes.

The new taxation proposals are (1) increase in the rate of income-tax from Rs. 0 2 6 in the rupee to Rs 0 3 0 in the rupee in respect of Individuals. *Hindu undivided families, unregistered* firms, etc, if the income exceeds Rs. 1,50,000 and in respect of companies if the income exceeds Rs. 4,800 per annum; (2) increase in the rate of super-tax according to a graduated scale up to Rs. 0 3 0 in the rupee in the case of individuals, unregistered firms, etc, if the total income exceeds Rs 50,000, in the case of Hindu undivided families if the income exceeds Rs 75,000 and in the case of companies if the total income exceeds Rs 10 000 per annum, (3) increase in the duty on tobacco and (4) levy of excise duties of 2 annas a pound on betel *nuts*, coffee and tea.

MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS

The law relating to motor vehicles in Mysore is contained in the Motor Vehicles Act of 1928 and the Mysore Road Traffic and Taxes Act of 1935. To consolidate all laws relating to motor vehicles in the State, bring them into line with British Indian legislation and *provide for reciprocity* between Mysore and other Provinces and States in respect of registration of vehicles, driving licences, etc, the present Bill was prepared, after a thorough examination of the laws by a *special committee* appointed for the purpose. The House unanimously supported the Bill.

Hyderabad

NIZAM'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

A plea for the inclusion of representatives of the *Andhra, Maharashtra* and Karnatak Conference and the Ittihadus Muslims on the Nizam's Executive Council was made by Mr. Narayan Reddi, presiding over the Seventh Andhra Conference held at Bhongir.

Only a council representing the people, said Mr. Reddi, would be able to cope with the present situation particularly in the matter of food, and bring about an understanding between Hindus and Muslims.

Mr. Reddi also urged reduction of land tax and introduction of income-tax *to* meet the deficit, introduction of a Trade Union Act, increase of wages of labourers in proportion to the rise in prices of necessaries of life and imparting of education through the medium of the mother-tongue to pupils at least in the secondary stage.

NO TAX ON HANDLOOMS

H. E. H. the Nizam has issued a firman prohibiting the collection of tax on handlooms in Jagir areas. This step will benefit handloom weavers in the Jagir areas of the State to the extent of Rs. 1,00,000 a year. A similar order is already in force in the non Jagir areas of the State. With a view to encouraging Textile Industry in the State, Government have sanctioned four scholarships of Rs. 70 each per month from the industrial trust fund.

Dhenkanal

DHENKANAL REFORMS

The Political Department of the Government of India have appointed an Executive Council in Dhenkanal, an *Orissa* State, for better administration. The Ruler will be the Chairman and the Dewan and the Prime Minister will be the other two members. The latter has been authorised to carry on the administration of the State in the absence of the Ruler even without any consultation.

Travancore

ELECTRICAL DEVELOPMENT

The availability of electric power in most places in Travancore with the completion of the Hydro Electric Scheme and the very low rates of tariff now offered are expected to open up great possibilities in the industrial and agricultural development in the State The progress so far made has been quite up to expectations

If Mysore which was the first in all India to generate electricity from water had a Sir K Seshadri Aiyar to initiate an Electric project Travancore has been fortunate enough to secure the valuable services of a Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar but for whose drive statesmanship and experience the Pallivasal scheme would not have been a *fait accompli*

Jaipur

POSTAL SYSTEM

Jaipur one of the oldest States has been maintaining its own postal system all through the centuries within the State Under a head post office situated in Jaipur the capital there are 10 sub post offices and as many as 119 branch post offices which cater to the needs of the rural public The postal charges in the State post office are lower than in British Indian post office as for instance a post card sells for ½ an anna and a cover for ¾ of an anna Money order commission and registration and parcel fees are also lower than in British India

Porbander

PORBANDER REFORMS

Under the proposed reforms scheme 35 members will be elected from different communities trade commerce and industries and these along with six officials will constitute the assembly A panel of four members will be elected by the House from which the Maharaja will select two Ministers who will be members of the Council under the presidentship of the Dewan Those reforms are expected to be introduced shortly

Baroda

THE NEW DEWAN

His Highness the Maharaja has appointed Shrimant Bhadrashilrao A Gaekwad Senior Councillor of the State to act as Dewan

Shrimant B A Gaekwad was born in 1826 He received his primary education in Baroda and at Christ College Cambridge He graduated with honours in Economics and Law in 1919 He was called to the Bar in 1922

In September 1922 he entered Baroda State service as a probationer in the Revenue Department where he served as Vahivatdar in different talukas till the end of the year 1925 He was then transferred to the Judicial Department where he worked as a munsif Later he was sent to the Huzur Political Office as Assistant Manager In 1928 he reverted to Revenue Department and worked as Personal Naib Suba, Baroda District In 1930 he was sent to the Survey and Settlement Department as Extra Barshali Assistant and in 1931 worked as acting Suba of Amreli District He was then transferred to Navsari District as Suba

In 1933 he accompanied His late Highness Sir Sayajirao Gaekwad to Europe as his chief officer and secretary On his return he served in various capacities such as Accountant General Huzur Kamdar and Manager Huzur Political Office In 1939 he was appointed acting Karma Sachiv (Councillor) and was confirmed as Naib Dewan in 1940

Bikaner

MR H K KIRPALANI

Mr H K Kirpalani Prime Minister Bikaner State has requested His Highness the Maharaja that owing to the excessive heat of Bikaner which will continue for several months more and which he feels he will not be able to stand he may be relieved of his office states a *communique*

In the circumstances the *communique* adds His Highness has had no alternative but to accede to his request and he greatly regrets that Mr Kirpalani should have to leave Bikaner on grounds of health, just when he was settling down to work and with his wide and varied experience was beginning to be of much help in the State administration

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Foreign Countries

INDIANS' RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP

"I consider it my first duty to see that Indians domiciled in foreign countries secure full rights of citizenship and I would strive my best to realise that", said Dr. N. B. Khare, Member in charge of Commonwealth Relations Department, Government of India, in a speech at Poona last month. The treatment meted out to Indians in foreign countries was most humiliating but this war, Dr. Khare thought, might bring a change in the attitude of white nations Already America had repealed the Chinese Exclusion Act and he felt America would follow this up by repealing all laws against Indians Similar feeling, he hoped, would spread to other nations concerned. Dr. Khare, was of the opinion that the future world could never hope for permanent peace unless nations decided to treat each other on terms of equality.

South Africa

NATAL ENQUIRY COMMISSION

Addressing the opening session of the Natal Indian Judicial Commission in Durban, the Chairman, Justice F. N. Broome, said: "At this very moment, the Free Nations of the world are engaged upon the most stupendous effort ever undertaken upon this earth. In the face of that great example, let there be no failure here in those same good qualities of tolerance, mutual understanding, co operation, good will." Justice Broome said it was the intention of the Commission to bring the investigation to a conclusion with as little delay as possible for if the inquiry was unduly protracted their report may become stale before it was published. He appealed to the public to tender information as soon as possible. The Commission is appointed to inquire into all matters affecting the Indian community in Natal Evidence heard from the Natal Indian Women's Association dealt mainly with the difficulties experienced by Indian girls in obtaining education, employment and transport.

U.S.A.

INDIANS AND U.S A. CITIZENSHIP

A strong and effective move, urging the restoration of rights of the United States citizenship to Indians by enactment of appropriate remedial legislation by U.S. Congress, was made by nearly 150 leading American Missionaries and other residents in India.

The following memorial, signed by them, is being forwarded to the U.S. Congres:

"We, the undersigned American citizens resident in India and engaged in missionary and other work, strongly support a legislation permitting the immigration of Indians under quota and making them eligible for the United States citizenship and urge the immediate enactment by the Congress of appropriate legislation which will remove the discrimination against the nationals of India under the present immigration and naturalisation laws and which will grant to Indians the same status as has been granted recently by the Congress to the nationals of China."

East Africa

KENYA CROWN LANDS BILL

The following has been sent to *Reuter's* head office in London from the Nairobi Indian Congress on May 28.

"Kenya Highlands policy, whereby Europeans enjoy a privileged position, is being expanded further. A Bill amending the Crown Lands Ordinance is under consideration whereby the privileged European position, stated to be for administrative convenience, will become irrevocably a European monopoly. Even sale of shares to Indians by limited liability companies holding landed interest in the highlands, will now be subject to the consent of another exclusively European Board and to the Governor's veto. Implore Imperial Government to intervene before it is too late. The Select Committee on the Bill has a solitary Indian member against seven Europeans."

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

BRITISH DEBT TO INDIA

Explaining Lord Keynes' plea for the Indo British Financial Settlement, Mr G D Birla one of the authors of the Bombay plan says in the course of a statement to the press that ' it will shock the best friends of England since the suggestion amounts to pure and simple repudiation of England's debt to India".

Before the war, India was a debtor country not because India had ever borrowed money or goods from anyone but because she was unjustly saddled with the cost of the Burma the Afghan, the Abyssinian and the Perak wars, and of the many expeditions like China Persia, Nepal, Ceylon Malaya Java, the Cape Colony and Egypt

From these, India had nothing to gain When, therefore India made a modest demand that her debt position should be examined by an impartial tribunal for an equitable settlement, people in England strongly resented it on the ground that India was trying to repudiate her 'sacred' debts Now, India has repaid those 'sacred' debts

But, when the time is coming for England to repay hers, a responsible man like Lord Keynes has set the ball of repudiation rolling Lord Keynes would not put such proposals to any of the Dominions because they are all free But if India is not free, it is not her fault, and for an eminent man like Lord Keynes virtually to suggest taking advantage of India s political subjugation is, to say the least, most unfortunate for Indo British relations

India bore all these tribulations patiently in the hope that, when the war was over, England would repay her debt which would help India in building up her productivity If now England repudiates her debt the bottom for the post war construction planning is completely knocked out and a perma nent seal on scarcity and misery is put

India has been asked to trust England s political pledge so very often Does Lord Keynes think that repudiation of a debt by a rich country to a starving one is the proper method to inspire such trust ?

BRITISH COUNCIL AND INDIA

The Council for international Recognition of Indian Independence has issued the following statement

The release of Mr Gandhi will be welcomed by all upon humanitarian grounds but will be mean ingless and futile in the political sense unless it is followed immediately by the release of all Congress leaders unconditionally and for the purpose of achieving political settlement for India. The United Nations need the free co operation of the Indian people in their struggle against Fascist dictatorship Mr Gandhi should not be released because he is a sick man, but because Britain, the United States and Russia have recognised the imperative need for the full co operation of the Indian people in the world situation of to day It is quite clear to all those who know the Indian situation and who have consistently urged that the power and prestige of the Congress in the heart of the vast mass of the Indian people must be re cognised by those who would arrive at a settle ment with India

If the release of Mr Gandhi is a prelude to full recognition of the Congress and a preliminary step to Indian independence, we welcome it as a most hopeful and statesmanlike act It can, how- ever only have meaning for India and the cause of the United Nations if it is followed by political action leading to free India

The signatories are Lord Strabolgi, Mr. William, G Cove, M P, Miss Vera Britain, Mr George Catlin, Mr. Amiya Bose and Mr Pulin Seal, Secretary of the Council

INDIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

Speaking on the Indian political situation at the Conference of the Federation of India Students' Societies in London, Mr R Palme Dutt advanced his proposals for solution as follows firstly, release of political prisoners following upon Gandhiji's release, secondly review of the Indian situation by released Congress leaders with a view to coming to some settlement with the Indian National Congress, and, thirdly, Congress should be given the opportunity to mobilise the resources of India for solving domestic economy problems as well as the needs of defence

Utterances of the Day

Prof. HILL ON INDIA'S NEEDS

Prof. A. V. Hill, the eminent scientist and Secretary of the Royal Society who recently completed a tour of India, said in the course of a broadcast to Britain on May 2:

At present India is very poor, but she has a great future and wonderful opportunity, if things go right. No political magic will make things go right—only honest, hard work, intelligent planning, friendly co-operation all round and full use of scientific method. If things do not go right, rightful penalty may be in store. As the recent famine has shown, India's factor of safety is very low and if people will go monkeying about with politics instead of getting on with things that really matter to the ordinary simple man and woman such as health, food, education, employment, security and higher standard of life, then appalling disaster may follow when the population gets altogether too topheavy for the present methods of supporting it.

In order to raise the standard of scientific work in India, it will be necessary not only to improve the level of education all round but set up a certain number of first class institutions in various subjects where teachers and research workers of the future can be trained

There is a great opportunity in India now for a bold, imaginative plan of national development based on modern knowledge of science and technology. It must start in India itself but we in Britain must be ready to help in its execution.

Sir FRANCIS LOW'S TRIBUTE TO INDIAN TROOPS

Sir Francis Low, Editor of the *Times of India*, in a brodcast speech from Bombay, said: "Let me pay a tribute to the men who have so vehemently resisted a major Japanese thrust against India. They are a mixed force of British and Indian services. They have been trained in a hard school. They are very different from the men who fought the Japs in Burma in the early stages of the war. If they are surrounded, they fight in their boxes, confident in the knowledge that they will be fed and munitioned from the air. If they are ordered to withdraw from the jungle to defend a vital spot, they will behave as the 17th Indian Division did—they will smash their way through road blocks, bringing their transport and supplies with them. Lord Louis Mountbatten rightly described the 17th Indian Division's breakthrough to Imphal from Tiddim as one of the finest battles of the war."

Mr. B. M. BIRLA ON THE 15-YEAR PLAN

"The first essential for any successful post-war plan is that the Government of India should develop a sympathetic and national outlook during the period of the war," declared Mr. Brij Mohan Birla, in his presidential address at the first quarterly general meeting of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta. He added: "The interests of the business community and the country are identical. There has never been any difference of opinion between the business community and the Indian National Congress on the fundamental objective of our national progress. We are nationalists in our outlook and the 15-year Plan owes its origin to a deep-seated desire for national economic welfare."

Mr. Birla opened his speech with a brief reference to the release of Mahatma Gandhi. He said: "The British Government by emphasizing that his release is purely on medical grounds have dashed all hopes of a change in his policy although we may be permitted to hope that the wise statesmanship shown by Lord Wavell in releasing Mahatma Gandhi will take him a step further and a way out of the *impasse* would be found out."

Sir F. K. NOON ON "FREEDOM"

Sir Firoz Khan Noon declared at a reception of the East Indian Association in London, on June 15, that the vast ambit of the Indian people had realised that so far as the freedom of their country was concerned, it was there for the asking. "The freedom of India is not going to walk over either to the Muslim League or the Congress, but they will have to walk over to receive it. Most people realise that the *impasse* is temporary. They know there will be not only no opposition from Britain but warm support to see India as an equal and free partner, which is one of the best hopes for the freedom of the world."

SIR GEORGE SCHUSTER'S CALL

Asked to state his view as to whether guarantees and pledges should be demanded of interned *Congress leaders*, Sir George Schuster, ex Finance Member, said that he was able to appreciate the burden of responsibility which was resting on those concerned with the maintenance of law and order, but had confidence in Lord Wavell and hoped that, when the time came the release would be granted without conditions

Sir George expressed sympathy with those who wished to see British Ministers and Parliament show themselves alert, flexible and sympathetic towards India He saw hope approaching *now for the* inception of a new phase in Anglo Indian relations, and in that event, these qualities would be specially necessary The present situation cannot continue indefinitely, he said and sooner or later Indian leaders of all parties, those who are free as well as those under detention, would be needed to co operate in working out the terms of a settlement

PUNJAB PREMIER AND LEAGUE

The Hon'ble Malik Khizar Hyat Khan Tiwana, Premier of the Punjab, has been expelled from membership of the All India Muslim League, and has been declared to be ineligible to become a member in future until the Working Committee of the League remove the ban against him.

This was the decision announced by the Muslim League Committee of Action in a lengthy statement issued recently

The Committee decided that the statement he issued after his talks with Mr Jinnah contained *objectionable passages*, which contravened the policy and programme of the Muslim League, and violated its constitution, rules, aims and objects, and he had, therefore, proved himself unfit to be a member of this sole national organisation of the Muslims of India

SIR REGINALD MAXWELL

The India Office announces that Mr L S Amery, the Secretary of State for India, has appointed Sir Reginald Maxwell, until *recently Home Member of the Governor*-General s Executive Council, to be one of his Advisors.

AIM OF MUSLIM MAJLIS

"The main reason why Nationalist Muslims consider it necessary to establish a separate organisation of the Muslims—the Muslim Majlis—is that within the Muslim League organisation, there is no room for persons who believe in the Complete Independence of India, an aim which has been dropped from and no longer forms part of the creed of the Muslim League, but which does constitute the political ideal of the Nationalist Muslims" says Sheikh Abdul Majid, M L A in the course of a statement.

He adds "According to us, there can be no freedom for Pakistan without the freedom of India We look upon the freedom of India as the freedom not only of the various provinces of India, but of all the nations of the East We demand that freedom unconditionally and immediately. But that is not the attitude of the Muslim League, which taboos all constitutional advance without its previous consent and approval Therein lies the essential difference between our two view points. None, however, is more anxious than we are to help a Congress League settlement and an equally lasting Indo British settle ment on the basis of self determination for India and its units There is no reason why the Indian question cannot be settled on the basis of the Cripps offer if the British Government is prepared to part with *Power immediately.*"

MR J MEHTA'S APPEAL

Mr Jamnadas Mehta told reporters at Montreal that the only answer to the Indian problem is for the democratic British people to investigate and undertake an active policy for undoing the mischief done by the British Government as the *former* could not comprehend *how the* Indian situation had worsened as a result of the British Government's Indian policy,

Educational

PAPER FOR EDUCATIONAL BOOKS

Resolutions requesting the Government of Madras and the Government of India to give first preference in the supply of paper to publishers of educational books, to make available a part of the paper production of the Mysore, Andhra Punalur and Sirpur Mills for distribution in Madras were passed at a Conference of Publishers of school and college books held recently at Madras. The meeting also urged the authorities to control the use of certain sizes of paper and restrict their supply to publishers of school and college books, and to relax newsprint control so as to allow publishers to use newsprint for printing books. Mr. K. S. Appaswami Ayyar, retired District Educational Officer, who presided, said that if education was to be carried on efficiently during war-time, publication of books should be encouraged as much as possible. He also pleaded for the modification of the procedure now adopted for the selection of text books, and suggested the constitution of text book committees for taluks or other suitable areas of each district.

DR. B. C. ROY

The Calcutta University recently conferred the degree of Doctor of Science, 'Honoris Causa', on Dr. B. C. Roy at a special Convocation.

Speaking at the Convocation, His Excellency the Chancellor said that in conferring the degree the University had done honour principally to itself. It was appropriate to Dr. Roy's special gifts that the University should have chosen the degree of Doctor of Science for conferment on him.

PROF. CHINNASWAMI SASTRIAR

Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of Benares Hindu University, presided over a meeting held at the Mylapore Sanskrit College, Madras, to present the insignia of the title "Sastra Ratnakara" to Prof. A. Chinnaswami Sastriar, Principal, College of Theology, Benares Hindu University. The title was conferred on him by Sri Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam in recognition of his learning.

MASS EDUCATION IN INDIA

Addressing the East India Association at London recently, Mr. John Sargent, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, said: "I am old enough in Government service to realise that almost anybody who is not mentally defective and some of those who are, can produce a report of some kind. What matters and what is even more difficult in India than elsewhere is to translate the report into action. . . My experience in India has shown me that a report is only too often treated as an alternative to action."

Declaring that there are a very large number of people in India of all castes and communities and all shades of political opinion, willing to collaborate in any constructive effort, Mr. Sargent added: "If anything is to be done, it will have to be done without delay. So far as the Central Educational Advisory Board's Plan is concerned, there can be no half-way house between what is and what ought to be. It is all or nothing."

Mr. Sargent pointed out the report has had "a surprisingly good reception in India" from all quarters.

FREE MIDDAY MEAL FOR CHILDREN

The Executive Committee of Education of Ceylon proposes to extend the scheme for the free feeding of school children to assisted elementary English schools and Government and assisted English schools (other than elementary) after the Director of Education has been able to obtain figures from head teachers with respect to the number of children that go without a midday meal in their schools.

The Executive Committee has expressed the opinion that

although the financial burden of the Central Government is bound to be heavy in view of war conditions and the food situation, the problem of building a healthy nation is a duty of the Government which cannot be neglected.

In the meantime, the Minister of Education will ask for a supplementary vote of Rs. 6,00,000 to meet the additional cost of a new scheme for providing a free midday meal to school children which was put into operation in May this year.

BENGAL AND ASSAM LAWYERS

The need for bringing to book cases of proved abuses of drastic powers given under emergent measures of legislation was stressed by Dr Naresh Chandra Sen Gupta presiding at the eighth session of the Bengal and Assam Lawyers Conference held at Calcutta last month

The Conference has appointed a committee to study and examine legislative and executive orders which in any manner curtailed or restricted the rights and civil liberties of the people and to take effective steps for their prevention Dr Naresh Chandra Sen Gupta President of the Conference will be Chairman of the Committee

The Conference has also asked each Bar Association to form a committee of its own members for the purpose of safeguarding civil liberties

By another resolution the Conference expressed the opinion that the Hindu Intestate Succession Bill should be dropped on the ground *inter alia* that the present time was inopportune for passing a legislative measure of such a controversial nature

A I S A TO BE FREE OF TAX

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council gave judgment on June 27 in favour of the All India Spinners Association which body with Mr Gandhi as one of its trustees was instituted in 1925 by the All India Congress Committee for the purpose of developing the village industry of hand weaving materials being supplied to poor people for spinning and weaving into cloth

This was sold at a profit the Commissioner of Income tax claimed and it was upheld by the High Court of Bombay that profit was liable to taxation on the ground that the dominant purpose of the Association was political and therefore not charitable and that its activities were not different from those of a trading concern In allowing the appeal the Privy Council has also awarded the costs against Government

WAR LOANS

Mr N B Ahmad Sessions Judge Fyzabad has set aside the sentence of one year rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs 300 each imposed on three persons Sri Nath Ram Dulare and Bhagwati Prasad by a Sultanpur Magistrate under the Defence of India Rules

The prosecution alleged that when a party of revenue officials headed by a supervisor visited the appellants and asked them to invest in war loan the latter not only refused but assaulted the party

The defence denied the charge of assault

Allowing the appeal the Judge observed that It has never been the intention of the Government to realize war loans in this way and if persons refused to pay anything the authorities should have taken sufficient care to see that their refusal was not made the basis of any prosecution which might give an impression to the people that the loan was obtained by force

FEDERAL COURT ON HABEAS CORPUS

The Federal Court recently unanimously allowed the appeals of four detenus against orders passed by the Patna High Court which dismissed the habeas corpus petitions filed by the detenus or on their behalf Their Lordships directed that the cases be remitted to the Patna High Court with a direction that the petitions be restored to the file and disposed of in due course of law in the light of the decision of the Federal Court as to the nature and extent of the Court's power in the matter

The detenus concerned are Basant Chandra Ghose Mahant Dhanraj Puri, Asoke Kumar Bose and Baidya Nath Rai

MADRAS DETENUS

The Government of Madras have abolished the practice of classification of political detenus They will henceforward be classed in one class Those who have hitherto been placed in Category Two will get the higher rate of daily personal allowance

INSURANCE BUSINESS IN INDIA

The total new life insurance business effected in India during 1942 amounted to 178,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 12,83,00,000 and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 2,22,00 000 as compared with 200 000 policies insuring a sum of Rs 93,51,00 000 and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 2,10,00,000 in 1941, according to the Indian Insurance Year Book for 1943. Of this, new business done by Indian insurers amounted to 1,60,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 86,47 00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 1,91,00,000 as compared with 189,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 81,14,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 1,77,00 000 in the previous year.

The total new sums insured by Indian life offices in 1942 amounted to Rs. 37,89 00 000 as compared with Rs. 3,68,00,000 in the previous year. The total business remaining in force at the end of the year was Rs. 2,66 60,00,000 as compared with Rs. 2,56,43,00,000 at the end of the previous year. The total revenue income of the Indian life offices during the year amounted to Rs. 16,54,00,000 as compared with Rs. 15.69,00,000 in 1941.

In the course of a survey of the growth of insurance business in India, the Superintendent of Insurance draws attention to the warning issued 15 years ago by the then Government Actuary and warns against indiscriminate flotations of insurance companies, particularly life insurance companies.

Referring to the anticipated industrial regeneration in India in the post war period, the report says, " it is an inevitable economic law that there is always a time lag, a fairly large one at that, between industrial activity and the consequent general rise in the economic level of the population. It is feared that this time lag itself, even if other things are satisfactory, may upset the calculations of some of the new company promoters." He also warns that, if the hope that the post-war period will witness a period of high degree of industrial activity and consequent prosperity is not actually realised to the large extent the hope is entertained, the struggle for existence among the insurers may take an acute form and some companies established in the past and who are at present struggling on the margin of solvency may be caught in the vortex of competition and be pulled down".

Commenting on the requests made by insurers for permission to raise additional capital, the report gives a timely reminder that the purpose of the control of capital issues is not only to check inflation but also to ensure that investable funds are not lured into enterprises which appear to be transacted rather for the benefit of the promoters than for any advantage to the general public interest. The Superintendent of Insurance will, therefore, require to be satisfied that the above danger is not present before he can recommend to the Government any request for issues of future capital.

As a result of negotiations with Indian States a number of concessions, on a principle of strict reciprocity, have been obtained for insurers and provident societies registered in British India and transacting business in Indian States also.

INSURANCE TO COVER EXPLOSIONS

The Government of India have decided to amend the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance, 1940, so as to cover damages occurring as the direct result of any explosives or munitions or other dangerous thing required for war purposes, and which happens or is caused by or through or in connection with the manufacture, storage or transportation of any such explosives, munitions or other dangerous things, says a press note.

In view of the additional risk to be now undertaken, the rate of premium payable in respect of goods subject to compulsory insurance under the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Scheme for the quarter beginning 1st July 1944 has been fixed at one anna and three pies per month or part of a month for each complete sum of Rs. 100.

INDIA AND THE LEASE LEND AID

'The lend lease aid we have sent to India has assisted and will assist the United Nations in gaining victories over the Axis But this aid has not flowed in one direction India too has supplied what she can for the common war effort in many forms Our forces in India have also received substantial reverse lend lease from India says President Roosevelt in his report to Congress on lend lease operations for 1943

He says Lend lease exports to India from March 11 1941 to December 31 1943 totalled 81 94 52 000 dollars Exports in 1943 were 70 per cent greater than the combined shipments for 1942 and 1941

Our strategic policy towards India has been determined by the importance of India s strategic and geographical position in the Far Eastern part of the war India is a major supply centre for the war against Japan From India extends the air supply line into Indo China Furthermore India is a military base for operations against the Japanese in Burma Lend lease exports of guns ammunitions and other munitions to India for the British and Indian armies and navies amounted to 554 million dollars

President Roosevelt then pays a tribute to Indian troops who have seen service on widely scattered fronts in this war and adds many more are preparing for the greater offensives to come against Japan

POST WAR TRADE POLICY

With the appointment of Mr R K Nehru I C S lately Joint Secretary Supply Department as the Officer in charge of Post war Reconstruction in the Commerce Department the work of planning India s post war trade policy has entered a new phase

Mr Nehru s work generally speaking will be to deal with all post war problems relating to the Commerce Department He has had considerable experience in the pre war years with questions relating to India s foreign trade

CLOTH DISTRIBUTION IN BOMBAY

The consumers of cloth in the Province of Bombay are expected to benefit by approximately Rs 23 million as a result of the recent notification of the Government of Bombay in regard to the disposal of cloth produced by the ten mills in the province distribution of whose production is controlled and also the goods that were frozen by the Provincial Textile Controller The Bombay Government has laid down that they will distribute cloth both frozen and those produced by the ten mills to the dealers on condition that the dealers give an under taking that they will sell these goods to the consumers at a price which does not exceed 11 per cent above the ex mill price in the case of cloth that was frozen and 10 per cent above the ex mill price in the case of cloth that is produced by the above mentioned mills

On the basis of the published figures for 1942 43 it appears that the ten mills in question can produce annually about 800 million yards of cloth In the recent past the Provincial Textile Controller has frozen goods of several wholesale dealers in the city and the total of such frozen cloth is stated to be about 5 600 000 yards The total yardage of cloth that will be available for the consumers under the above arrangement of the Provincial Government comes to 955 600 000 It may be noted that the above arrangement does not financially affect either the textile mills concerned or the dealers whose cloth was frozen as the textile mills will get their ex mill price and the dealers will get their profit so far as the consumers are concerned In one case they will get a benefit of 10 per cent while in the other they will get a benefit of 6 per cent

WORLD MONETARY CONFERENCE

India s delegation to the World Monetary Conference which is to be held at Bretton Woods New Hampshire consists of Sir Jeremy Raisman the Finance Member Sir Chintaman D Deshmukh Governor of the Reserve Bank Sir Theodore Gregory Economic Adviser to the Government of India and two non officials Sir Shanmukham Chetty and Mr A D Shroff

Women's Page

"KEWPIE WOMAN"

Rose O'Neill, the artist, poet and novelist who created the Kewpie Doll, died recently at the age of 70. Originator of the bouncing elfin sprite that became the world's most popular toy, she earned a place for herself as a serious artist but throughout the years was best known as the Kewpie woman. It was the Kewpie which brought Miss O'Neill a fortune enabling her to travel and work at leisure on her more significant creations.

The Kewpie originated as a tailpiece which the artist affixed to her signature on magazine illustrations. In 1913 she launched the Kewpie as a definite personality. Soon whole pages of them appeared in various magazines and at the end of the World War, toy manufacturers throughout the world were reproducing them in wood, cloth, bakelite and even ice cream and chocolate.

MRS. PANDIT ON RUSSIA'S FREEDOM

"The Soviet Union has stood for certain values which thinking people all over the world regard as necessary for the development of the human race. Today Russia fights not only to protect her homes but to safeguard these values without which her homes cannot exist," declared Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, presiding over the First All-India Congress of the Friends of the Soviet Union held at Bombay. Delegates from most of the Provinces and Ceylon attended the Congress.

MRS. CASEY ON DOMINION STATUS

"I hope that India will be free under the Commonwealth of Nations. We in Australia have Dominion Status and I can safely recommend it for India", said Mrs. Casey, wife of the Governor of Bengal, in a press interview at Calcutta, recently.

Mrs. Casey added, "I hope that after the war, India and other countries will be able to understand each other better. Post-war civil aviation will bring the countries ... all should profit by it."

MRS. ROOSEVELT'S APPEAL

Mrs. Roosevelt, in a special United Nations Day broadcast, declared that all the peoples of the world must be assured of the four freedoms. "If they are not, then none of the homes can be secure in the enjoyment of their freedom."

She said: "When the war is over and our men come home, they will have to join with the people at home in seeing that in their communities they exercise their citizenship to ensure the conditions for which they fought. If we decide to work for unity and freedom throughout the world, we must join with other nations, small and great, and find ways to friendship to bring about freedom for the people of the world. Gradually we must achieve everywhere a standard which we think is the minimum for human decency and gives people hope that they can grow and develop and have better lives in the future than they have had in the past. And that is the only sure way of working for peace in future.

TRAINED NURSES IN INDIA

"The alleged failure of the nursing profession to appeal to the right type of women in India is due far more to the attitude of the authorities responsible for the maintenance of hospitals and to the conditions in which, too often, probationers are trained and nurses expected to work, than to the alleged reluctance of educated Indian women to undertake the care of the sick." Major-General K. B. Hance, Director General, I.M.S., declared this as his conviction, in the course of a speech welcoming Lady Wavell to the annual general meeting, of the Trained Nurses' Association, and in inviting her to open the meeting, he said: "As long as trained nurses are regarded, paid and housed as menials, it is not reasonable to expect that large numbers of Indian ladies will come forward to desire themselves to this work."

CEYLON'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

The Ceylon State Council passed a resolution for making Sinhalese and Tamil the official languages of Ceylon.

The original resolution as moved by Mr. J. R. Jayewardene mentioned only Sinhalese and read:

That with the object of making Sinhalese the official language of Ceylon within a reasonable number of years, this Council is of opinion that Sinhalese should be made the medium of instruction in all schools, that Sinhalese should be made a compulsory subject in all public examinations, that legislation should be introduced to permit the business of the State Council to be conducted in Sinhalese also, that a Commission should be appointed to choose for translation and to translate important books of other languages into Sinhalese, and that a Commission should be appointed to report on all steps that need be taken to effect the transition from English into Sinhalese.

The mover himself sought to add Tamil, but as permission was refused on the ground that he had not given notice of the amendment, another member moved the amendment, which was carried by a large majority.

BRITISH AUTHORS' APPEAL

28 British authors and journalists have addressed a letter to Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, urging the release of Congress leaders.

The letter says: "Recently the editors of 112 newspapers in India addressed a letter to the Viceroy urging that Congress leaders should be liberated in order to enable all Indian parties to make their contribution towards the ending of the deadlock and the establishment of a representative National Government."

As editors, authors and journalists, we desire to associate ourselves with the appeal of our Indian colleagues. Our satisfaction at the release of Mr. Gandhi would be complete if his comrades were free.

Among the signatories are: Vera Britain, Fenner Brockway, George Catlin, Victor Gollancz, Frank Horrabin, Laurence Housman, Julian Huxley, C. E. M. Joad, Harold Laski, Ethel Mannin and J. S Priestley.

SIR BARON JAYATILAKA

Sir Don Baron Jayatilaka, the Representative of the Ceylon Government in India, died on May 31, while on his way to Colombo from Delhi by plane.

Sir Baron Jayatilaka was ailing when he left Delhi by a special plane provided personally by the Viceroy Lord Wavell but died on the way. The body was taken to Colombo.

. . Sir Baron Jayatilaka was a member of the Ceylon Legislative Council, and since 1931 till his death was member, State Council He also had simultaneously the position of Minister of Home Affairs and Leader of the Council. A man of varied activities he was the President of the Young Men's Buddhist Association, Colombo, and of the Royal Asiatic Society, since 1938 His interest in Sinhalese classical literature found expression in his work, the "Life of Saravankara Sangharaja" He was also Honorary Editor-in-Chief of the Dictionary of the Sinhalese language.

To solve the food problem in Ceylon after the beginning of the war, he was appointed as special representative of the Ceylon Government in India a couple of years back.

THE LATE DR. LAGOUDAKIS

The world famous authority on leprosy, Dr. Socrates Lagoudakis, who inoculated himself with the dreaded disease in 1934, died on June 8 in Alexandria, aged 82. He was known as the man who never shook hands Dr. Lagoudakis, who gave free treatment to lepers at his Alexandria colony, was a great scholar and a poet. In 1896 he ran in the Marathon at the Athens Olympic Games.

DR A. APPADORAI

Dr. A. Appadorai, Professor of Politics, Loyola College, Madras, has been appointed Secretary, Indian Council of World Affairs, and is expected to take up his duties at New Delhi shortly.

"ELECTRIC SLEEP"

A group of California scientists reported to the American Psychiatric Association that sleep can be induced by electrical means as a method of treating mental troubles. Such repose is called electro-narcosis and is induced by electrodes and a mild current applied to the head. It starts with a mild spasm, followed by deep unconsciousness. Electric sleep can be maintained for seven minutes at a time. In more than 1,000 treatments without ill-effect, it worked better in curing or mitigating cases of schizophrenia than the use of electric shock, a previously tried method, had done alone. The originators of the treatment said it was as effective as insulin shock. They experimented on animals for many years to make sure the method was safe for human beings.

A NEW VACCINE

American scientists have developed a new vaccine which will prevent the spread of deadly gas gangrene, according to Dr. Richards, Chairman of the U.S. Medical Research Committee. Gas gangrene—a complication of war wounds caused by germs present in fertile soil—is a "deadly menace that confronts the armed forces when they are called upon to fight on the bacteria-contaminated soil of Europe."

Used in conjunction with penicillin, the new vaccine is expected to reduce deaths from gas gangrene to a negligible number. Long, hard study went into the preparation of the new vaccine. Already several companies are turning out rush orders of the vaccine.

FREE DISPENSARY IN MYSORE

Declaring open a free dispensary donated by Mr. M. S. M. M. Meyyappa Chettiar of Karaikudi in Cottonpet, Bangalore city, recently, Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda, Minister for Public Health in Mysore, announced that there was a possibility of the establishment of an Institute of Indian Medicines in Mysore in the near future. "India is a poor country and needs a cheaper system of medicine than is available now, if medical relief is to reach the rural parts", said the Minister.

GOAT'S MILK FOR DIET

Goat's milk, says *Indian Farming*, is very rich in fat, containing about 1 per cent. more fat than cow's milk, and its fat globules are smaller than those of either the cow or the buffalo and are therefore more easily digested. Goat's milk is alkaline, and cow's milk acid, in reaction—a difference of considerable importance for anyone with a weak stomach.

Cow's milk requires two hours for digestion and goat's milk 30 minutes, which means a saving of three-fourths of the work for the stomach. Of the 12 different mineral salts found in the three kinds of milk, *viz*, cow's, goat's and human, nine are to be found in goat's milk and only six in cow's milk.

Further, cow's milk contains very little iron, whereas goat's milk has from 7 to 10 times as much of that very important element, which is present in the blood of all warm-blooded creatures. Medical authorities have said that if cow's milk contained a little more iron, it would be the 100 per cent. perfect food.

There are only a few of the arguments brought forward in favour of the goat by the writer of the article, Mr. R. L. Kaura, Deputy Director of Veterinary Services, Orissa.

LIGHT DIET FOR PALPITATION

Palpitation is often simply the recognition of the normal beat of the heart in people who are nervous. If there is irregularity of the heart or if it skips a beat, it is best to seek medical advice. Diet is an important factor. Choose an easily digested diet and do not over-eat. Take only three meals a day and nothing between meals, writes *Good Health*.

SALT WATER AS SOAP

The Army can now wash in cold sea water with the aid of a new soap ingredient developed from petroleum by Dupont chemists. Mixed with other constituents in a proportion of about one to two, the new material removes dirt, oil and grease in any kind of water. Post-war variations of the formula will be available for household and other soaps.

LIQUIDATION OF STERLING BALANCES

The view that India is greatly exercised on the question of arriving at a satisfactory arrangement with His Majesty s Govern ment for an orderly liquidation of our sterling balances at an early date and that the Indian delegation to the International Monetary Conference will miss no oppor tunity of pressing this point of view is expressed by Mr A D Shroff a Member of the Indian Delegation to the Conference Interviewed by the Associated Press Mr Shroff said The International Monetary Conference which President Roosevelt has convened to meet on July 1 at Brertaon Woods is to consider a scheme for the establishment of an Inter national Monetary Fund the principles of which are reported to have been agreed to by the experts of important United Nations Sir Jeremy Raisman the Finance Member assured the General Policy Committee 6f the Reconstruction Committee last January that the Government of India would take their decision on this important question as independently as any other United Nations

RESTRICTION ON BANKS

A notification in the *Ga ette of India* has been issued fixing July 1 1944 as the date on which the Indian Companies (Amendment) Act 1944 shall come into force The Amending Act received the consent of the Governor General on March 7

The Amending Act includes a new Section 277 H H prohibiting the employ ment of Managing Agents and placing restrictions on certain forms of employ ment Under this Section no banking company whether incorporated in or outside British India shall after the expiry of 2 years from the commencement of the Act employ or be managed by a Managing Agent or any person whose remuneration or part of whose remunera tion takes the form of a commission or share in the profits of the company or by any person having a contract with the company for a period exceeding 5 years at any one time It has however been provided that such a contract may be renewed or extended for a further period not exceeding 5 years at a time if and so often as the directors think fit

LOCOMOTIVES FOR INDIA

One hundred and forty five Canadian made locomotives will soon be in service on the broad gauge railways in India Weighing 161 tons with tenders these locomotives known as the X Dominion type are a smaller version of the 288½ ton Mikados which keep freight rolling along Canada s supply lines In details such as the tender coupler and buffer these follow the European style

The locomotives are being constructed at two well known locomotive works in Canada and it has been arranged with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for their inspection The Canadian Pacific Railway is not only responsible for checking the machining of parts construc tion of boilers and tenders and erection of the locomotives but also have to arrange for their dismantling and re erection on their arrival in India For shipment each locomotive is dismantled and packed in 17 crates

The contract which started on July 8 last year has progressed far enough and Mr J Marshall Watson an erection engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company is coming out to India to supervise the assembly and service testing of these locomotives at a railway workshop in this country

T A FOR GOVT SERVANTS

Travelling allowances for Government servants have been revised by the Government of Bombay in view of the increased cost of touring

With a few exceptions permanent travelling allowances of Rs 60 a month and below have been increased by fifty per cent Permanent travelling allowances of Rs 80 have been increased by fifty per cent Permanent travelling allowances of above Rs 80 have been increased by 33⅓ per cent subject to a minimum of Rs 120 a month

The mileage allowances for journeys by road and daily allowance rates have also been increased

IMPROVEMENT OF TRANSPORT

To improve transport facilities the Government of India it is understood have placed orders in America for over 20 000 railway wagons A substantial number have already arrived in India and more are expected soon

A GREAT MARATHA ARTIST

Probably more people were familiar with the Maratha artist, Rao Bahadur Mahadev Vishwanath Dhurandhar's work in printed form than they were with his name, but his death at age of 73 at Khar, near Bombay, robs us of one of the famous Indian artists of the old school.

During his career he had officiated as Director of the Sir J. J. School of Art in Bombay, painted some of the pictures in the New Delhi Secretariat and exhibited at India House, London, where one of his pictures was bought by Queen Mary.

Apart from his pictures which were placed on exhibition, however, he did much fine work as a book illustrator, working with Kincaid, S. M. Edwardes and Otto Rothfield, and also for Marathi, Gujerati, Hindi and mythological books.

INDIAN ART EXHIBITION

The first non-political Indian Art Exhibition of its kind in Britain, containing exhibits valued at more than £10,000, was opened by the British Artist, Mr. Augustus John, at the Alpine Club Gallery in London on Tuesday the 6th May.

Gandhara sculptures dating back to the second, third and fourth centuries, rare paintings, textiles, bronzes and ivories are included in the exhibition. It was organized by Indians with British co-operation.

Despite war-time difficulties, it is a representative exhibition of all Indian art and includes specimens from Burma, Indo-China, Siam, Nepal and Tibet.

MUSIC FOR HEALTH

Mahatma Gandhi has chosen a new way to cure himself. Musicians—Hindu and Muslim—are singing him or hymning him into health. These bhajanas are in praise of God and have exercised curative effect on him. When Manohar Barve sang to him, Gandhiji told him, "Your music is good medicine to me. It will prove to be a tonic for my early recovery." Mr. Gulam Ali Khan of Lahore, a musician of repute, sang 'ustada' and Gandhiji wrote on a piece of paper (being in silence), "I like songs in praise of God." Here is a subject for original research—the effect of music on disease.

SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

Several good timings were witnessed at the Bombay Provincial Salt Water Swimming Championships held at the Pransukhlal Maftlal Hindu Swimming Bath and Boat Club on the Kennedy Sea Face on May 27. Miss D. R. Nazir, an 8-year old girl, won both the 50 metres breast stroke events for juniors as well as for women in the excellent timings of 54 seconds and 55'1 seconds.

J. R. Jhabwala had little difficulty in winning 200 metres breast stroke for men though P. Kahn put up a good fight, while J. Jaglom won 400 metres free style for men in 6 minutes 10'8 seconds.

GALLANTRY AWARD FUND

Sir Gokulchand Narang, M.L.A., has constituted a special fund of Rs. 25,000 called the "Major Prannath Narang Gallantry Trust" to commemorate the career of his son as an officer of the Indian Army and particularly his death in action on April 17 last.

Among the objects of the fund is to encourage among young people without any distinction of caste, creed or colour a spirit of chivalry, service and sacrifice, keenness to run risks and do daring deeds in a lawful and noble cause.

TRIBUTE TO A FOOTBALLER

Rs. 8,800 was realised from gate takings, donations and sale of programmes at the Nadkarni Cup final which was staged by the Western India Football Association as a mark of appreciation to the memory of that great-hearted sportsman and sterling full-back Sam Thomson, who lost his life while on duty with the Fire Services in the Bombay explosions of April 14. This sum will be handed over to his widow and two children, one of whom, incidentally, was posthumously born recently.

ALL-INDIA BADMINTON

The venue of this year's All India and Inter-Provincial Badminton Championships has been finally allotted to Bombay under the management of the Bombay Provincial Badminton Association, announces the Honorary Secretary of the All-India Badminton Association, V. A. Madgavkar. The All-India Championship will be held some time in December.

RAMAN S INVESTIGATIONS ON DIAMOND

Investigations on the diamond on which Sir C V Raman with his collaborators has been engaged during the past two years have been published as a sumptuously illustrated volume of papers by the Indian Academy of Sciences These investigations reveal that the diamond is not a single chemical individual or a giant molecule as has hitherto been supposed

Theoretical considerations based on the geometry of the carbon atom and of the crystals formed by their union indicate that there should be four kinds of diamonds possibly the difference between them being either purely geometrical or both geometric and physical The recognition of this fact enables many remarkable and hitherto ill understood properties of the diamond to be satisfactorily interpreted and explained

Direct experimental evidence for the existence of four kinds of diamonds is also forthcoming Any actual diamond usually consists of a mixture on a coarse or fine scale of two or more of the theoretically possible varieties This gives rise to observable variations in the physical properties of diamond as for instance the colour and brightness of the visible light emitted by it under the ultra violet lamp its transparency in various regions of the spectrum and the strength with which it reflects X rays Variations of these properties can appear even within an individual specimen and are observed and recorded as luminescence patterns ultra violet transparency patterns and X ray photographs of the diamond The striking resemblances and equally striking differences between these different kinds of patterns form a very interesting study and numerous examples of them illustrate the volume

TOBACCO AND HEMORRHAGE

Dr T H Herrick of the U S Department of Agriculture s regional laboratory at Peoria Illinois has discovered that rutin a substance extracted from tobacco leaves has a strengthening effect on fragile capillaries Rutin is now being tested on diseases in which there is a tendency to hemorrhage and where high blood pressure causes a break in the capillaries of the brain or the eye s retina

MAKING A SUCCESSFUL FILM

Charging that Hollywood s troubles reside in the assembly line methods of its huge fantastically run studios producer Lester Cowan of Hollywood is trying to rescue it from its artistic difficulties says Mr J Lex in a statement

Cowan it will be recalled was the man who evolved the present system of Academy Awards He wishes to show other studios that the only correct one way of producing pictures is the independent way

Explaining himself Cowan said With unlimited money to spend the big studios can buy an outstanding player story or creator but with any article which is bought easily the big producers regard their purchase lightly That is why high priced novels stage properties and often screen stars are often put aside without being used He who wishes to make a film successfully must centralize it financially and geographically To project new backgrounds and new viewpoints on the screen the film should move away from Hollywood where technicians and workers in all studio departments never seem to change their ideas They work on one film then move over to another studio and another film but use their same technique and methods

Poverty , says Lester Cowan did many people a great deal of good but riches never did help except financially If some of these studios had less money to work with and fewer employees they would of necessity turn out better films

S I FILM CHAMBER

The 6th Annual Meeting of the General Body of the Chamber was held on 27 5 1944 in the premises of the Chamber 19 A Woods Road Mount Road Madras After the President s speech the Annual Report for 1943 44 and budget for 1944 45 were adopted

The following were elected as office bearers for the current year —

Mr G Ramabrahmam President Messrs S Soundararajan K Subrahmanyam B N Reddi and T R Sundaram —Vice Presidents Messrs A Ramiah and P L Narayana Iyer—Hony Joint Secretary Mr L L Patel—Honorary Treasurer

LEND LEASE MOTOR VEHICLES

Lease-Lend motor vehicles will soon be operating to relieve congestion on railways.

In this connection, the Government of India communicated to the Railways to start bus traffic, where convenient, and to let the Government of India know their requirements so that arrangements may be made to import motor vehicles from America.

Railways have the option either to run the service departmentally or in conjunction with privately managed companies.

Other resources that are being applied to relieve the strain on railway is country cart service.

BOMBAY AHMEDABAD TRUNK ROAD

The 500-miles Bombay to Ahmedabad Trunk Road is almost complete.

The road is ready for traffic between Bombay and Ankleshwar (Broach District) and between Borsad and Ahmedabad. The Baroda Government are speeding up the construction of the part of the road that falls in the State territory.

This road forms part of the Government's plan of synchronisation of road and rail communications with a view to lessen the pressure on any one of them.

BUS SERVICES IN MYSORE

During the discussion on the motor vehicle bill in the Mysore Assembly, some members referred to the serious restriction of bus services in the State owing to non availability of spare parts and tyres and urged that Government should treat all bus services as essential services and give them priority for the supply of spare parts tyres, etc.

Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman, Minister for Revenue and Finance, said that, owing to the present conditions, the Government were unable to meet all demands of the bus services for spare parts and tyres.

MOTOR INDUSTRY FOR INDIA

The Government of India are understood to have sanctioned the issue of capital for an indigenous automobile industry sponsored by the Birlas. The scheme contemplates the manufacture of motor cars, trucks and other automobiles in India.

AVIATION FACILITIES IN INDIA

Addressing the first batch of I.A.T.C. cadets on the occasion of their passing out parade in the Travancore University Stadium, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Vice Chancellor, described it as one of the greatest significance for the present and future. He referred to the comparative unpreparedness of the British and Indian Governments in the matter of military and civil aviation, with the result we were today trying to find out if Universities could spare a few hands for the purpose of defence of the country at this juncture and for building up a scheme of civil aviation after the war.

PLANE PRODUCTION IN U.S.A.

President Roosevelt at a recent Press Conference said that the United States had produced more than 175,000 planes in about 8 years. In the first 91 days of 1944, 4,400 had been sent to America's Allies representing an average of 883 a week. Making public a report from the Foreign Economic Administration, President Roosevelt said that some doubting Thomases had scoffed at his pre-war predictions that the United States could produce 50,000 planes a year.

PROGRESS OF BRITISH AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY

The Minister of Aircraft Production, Sir Stafford Cripps, giving figures of the sweeping progress of the British aircraft industry during the war stated that 27,273 new aircraft were delivered from factories in the United Kingdom in the 12 months ended March, compared with 8,000 in 1939 and 15,000 in 1940.

"We are now producing 16 types of aircraft which were not in production in 1940 and further new types are due to come into production in the next 12 months," said Sir Stafford Cripps.

RECORD ATLANTIC CROSSING

Two Mosquitos—the first to fly non-stop from North America to the United Kingdom on the R.A.F. Transport Command trans-Atlantic route—have just been delivered after the crossing made in the fastest time yet achieved. They did 2,200 statute miles in take-off to landing times of 6 hours and 46 minutes, and 7 hours and 9 minutes respectively.

DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY

The electricity industry in India was the subject of a question in the Commons when Wing Commander Grant Ferris asked what practical steps the Government of India were taking to encourage it and what long term plans were envisaged

Mr Amery replied An additional capacity amounting to 200 watts had been supplied to India since the outbreak of war and further 150 watts are on order The Government of India have the development of electricity supply in the forefront of their post war reconstruction plans They have already scheduled additional plants requirements for the addition of 660 watts to the existing capacity of public utilities and have further requirements under consideration

In addition Provincial and State Governments are considering a number of important projects and the Government of India propose to set up a Technical Power Board to scrutinize and co ordinate all schemes

BENGAL HANDLOOM WEAVING

A scheme costing Rs 50 lakhs for the development of the handloom weaving industry of Bengal is understood to be under the consideration of the Bengal Government In the first stage the scheme proposes to organise professional weavers Later it will provide for the training in weaving of agriculturists so that a large number of men may adopt weaving as a subsidiary occupation The plan envisages the establishment of a chain of depots throughout the province

USES FOR LINSEED OIL

Processes have been developed whereby linseed oil may replace castor oil in the manufacture of lubricants and brake fluid It may be used in the textile industry in the manufacture of insulating composition and it is the base of many important plastics

GOVERNMENT PERMIT CAPITAL ISSUE

The Government of India have given their consent for the capital issue for Mr Walchand Hirachand s automobile manufacturing industry

FARM MACHINERY FOR INDIA

Sir Firoz Khan Noon urged representatives of Britain s farm machinery industry to study the post war Indian import market I would like to see a large number of small ploughs manufactured which would be worked by hand and sold in millions he said at a St Albanns farm implement demonstration arranged by the Minister of Agriculture and War Agriculture Emergency Committee If you can manufacture a small plough capable of being turned within an acre you will find a ready sale Small engine driven pumps for drawing water from wells not much deeper than 15 feet were also greatly needed

CAUVERY METTUR PROJECT

In connection with the Grow More Food campaign the Madras Government propose to bring under irrigation an extent of about 40 000 acres of commanded but unirrigated land in the Cauvery Mettur Project area of the Tanjore district The Board of Revenue has reported that the easiest method of reclaiming the lands quickly is by the provision of field bothies and other irrigation facilities such as *(a)* draining the fully abandoned tanks and lowering the F T L of partly abandoned tanks *(b)* provision of additional pipes and *(c)* conversion of field bothies into rear channels etc at an estimated cost of Rs 1 50 000 The Government have sanctioned the expenditure and it is proposed to address the Government of India for a grant of half the estimated cost of the above works

GOAT *vs* COW

In view of the general shortage of cow s milk the popularising of the goat which is an economic producer of milk butterfat is advocated

Four or five goats can be maintained as cheaply as one cow and with a comparatively larger yield of milk

In areas where fodder resources are limited and milch cattle do not thrive the goat has very great possibilities as it can flourish on a class of fodder on which other animals starve to death

INDIAN LABOUR IN S. A.

Allegations were made by representatives of the Durban branch of the S. A. Trades Labour Council while giving evidence before the Natal Indian Judicial Commission to the effect that there is "serious exploitation" of Indian workers in Natal Trades Labour Council.

The evidence led to show that wages paid to workers on railways in the Durban Municipality and those employed in private enterprise were far below "any civilised living standard." The low earnings of the Indian population were described as the root cause of the deplorable living conditions and health of the majority of the Indian community. It maintained that wages paid in the clothing industry were higher than in the majority of the industries, ranging from £4 monthly for the first three months as learners to £14 monthly for qualified workers, exclusive of the cost of living allowance.

Mr. A. I. Kaje, member of the Commission, asked how Indians were responding to the trade union movement in view of their lack of education and the comparative novelty of the movement among Indians. Mr J. C. Bolton, Chairman, Durban Branch, Trades Labour Council, replied they were responding very well.

NEW CHARTER OF RIGHTS

Delegates to the I. L. O. Conference on May 10, unanimously adopted a Philadelphia Charter of Rights recognised as 'solemn obligation' of the I. L. O. for bettering the lot of the common man. The Charter had the backing of all delegates from 41 nations present at the plenary session. There was no discussion on any of the ten points contained in the Charter and when the Chairman, Mr. Walter Nash, offered it for adoption, the delegates raised their hands enthusiastically.

"The Philadelphia Charter" affirms that all human beings irrespective of race, creed or sex have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity and of economic and equal opportunity.

Y.M C.A. CENTENARY

The King has sent the following message of goodwill on the occasion of the Y.M C.A. Centenary:

"I learn with interest and pleasure that the Y.M.C.A. is about to celebrate the Centenary of its foundation. As its Patron, I join its leaders and members in thankfulness to Almighty God for the world-wide services to youth which it has been able to render during the past 100 years. The record of what the Y.M C.A. has achieved in the past and most notably in times of war justifies a confident belief that it will have a worthy and important part in the future rebuilding of national and international life."

NEW TASHI LAMA

The seven-year old boy Mu Shu Die (Peaceful Pearl) has been made Tashi Lama, thus becoming the spiritual ruler of a large part of Tibet.

Of the other two Lamas, the seven-year old boy who had been selected as the tenth incarnation of the "immortal" Panchan Lama of Tibet, was formally enthroned in February. The Panchan Lama is the religious head of the Buddhist Church in part of Mongolia.

The third is the Dalai Lama, the temporal ruler of Tibet, who also has some spiritual authority. In July, 1939, a six-year old boy was chosen as the reincarnation of the Thirteenth Dalai Lama. The Tashi Lama is the least exalted of the three.

THE VATICAN CITY

In theory the Vatican State centres round St. Peter's Church, which together with the adjacent Vatican buildings and St. Peter's Square, constitutes the Vatican City proper, also commonly called Peter's City. Actually the Papal domain covers an area of barely 108 acres.

The Pope, as religious head of over 300 000,000 Catholics, maintains strict neutrality, but the previous pontiff, Pius XI, whose principal Secretary of State for some years was the present Pope, was strongly anti-Nazi and made no secret of his dislike for the Nazi regime.

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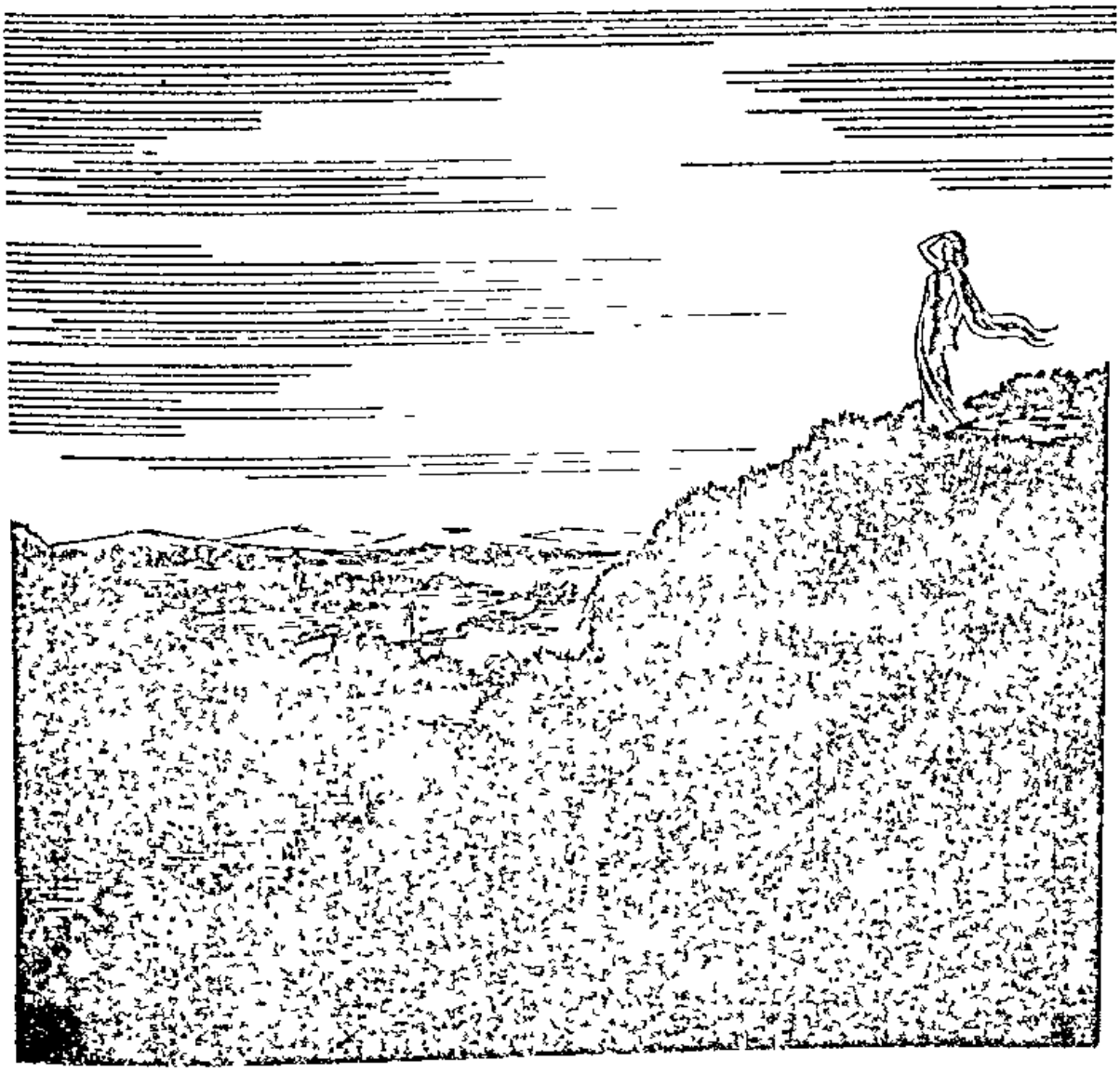
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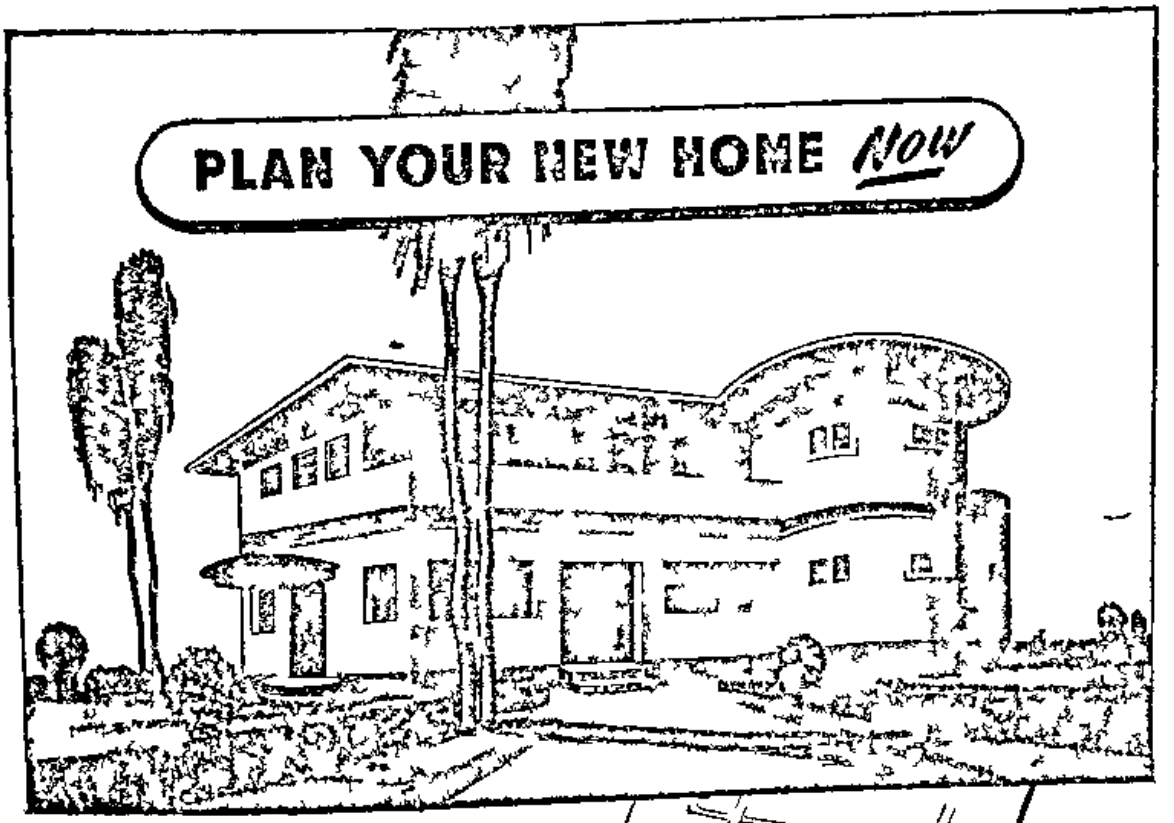
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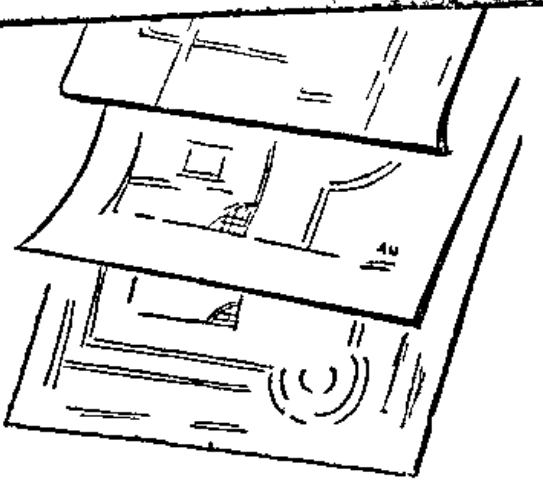
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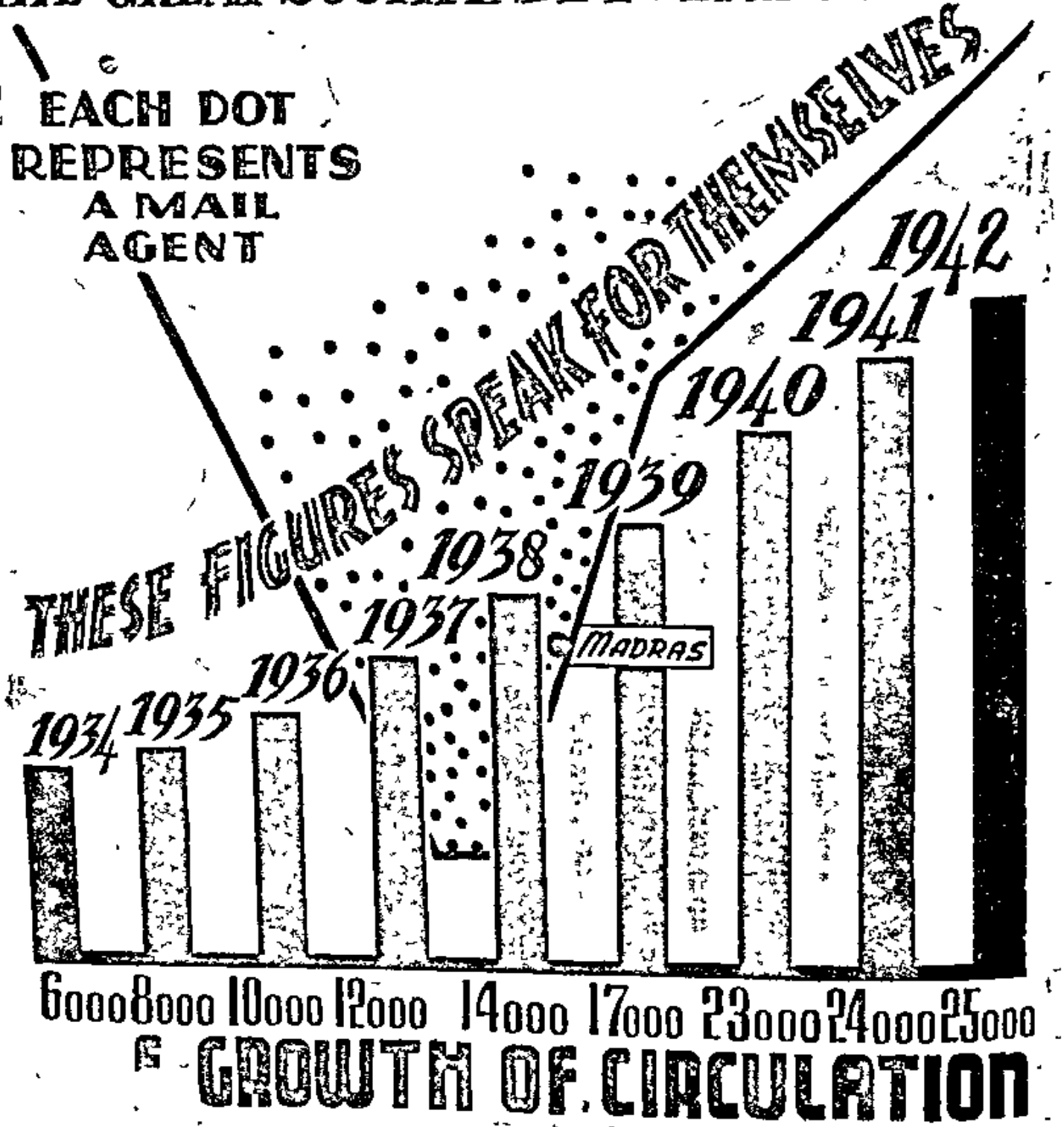
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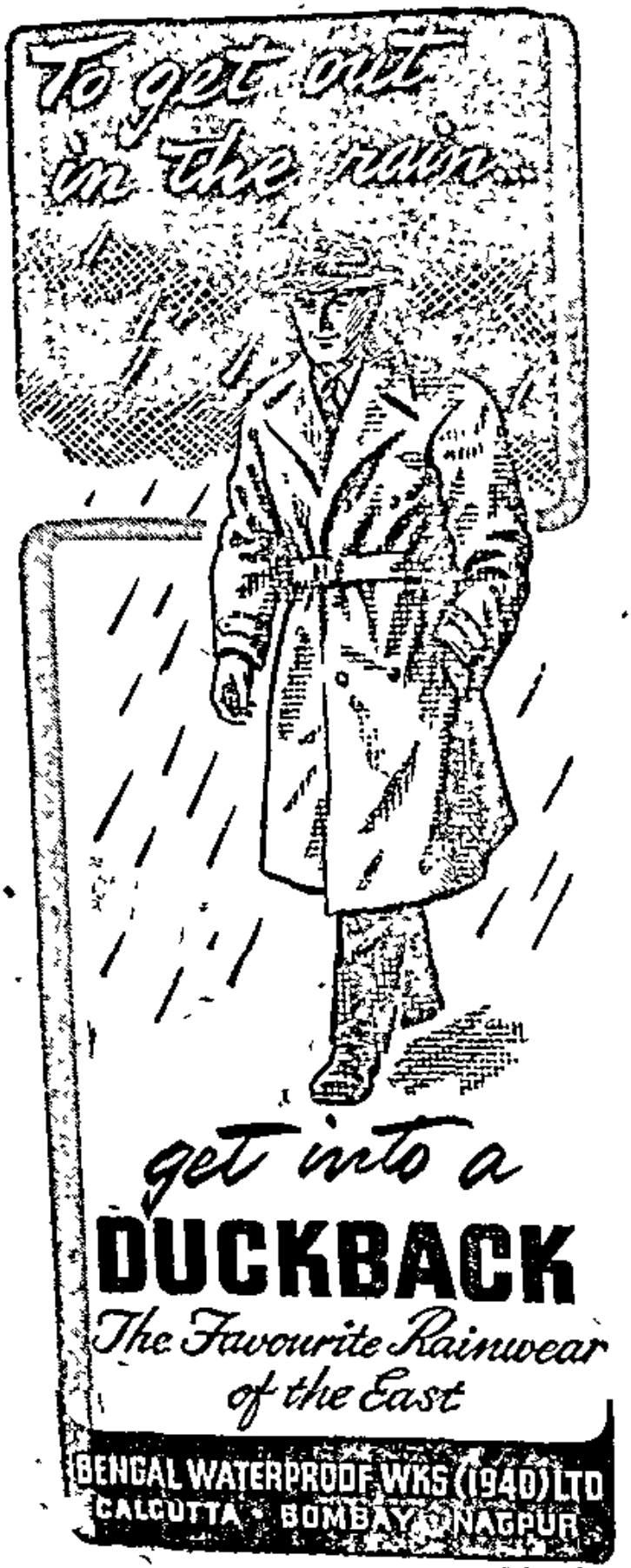
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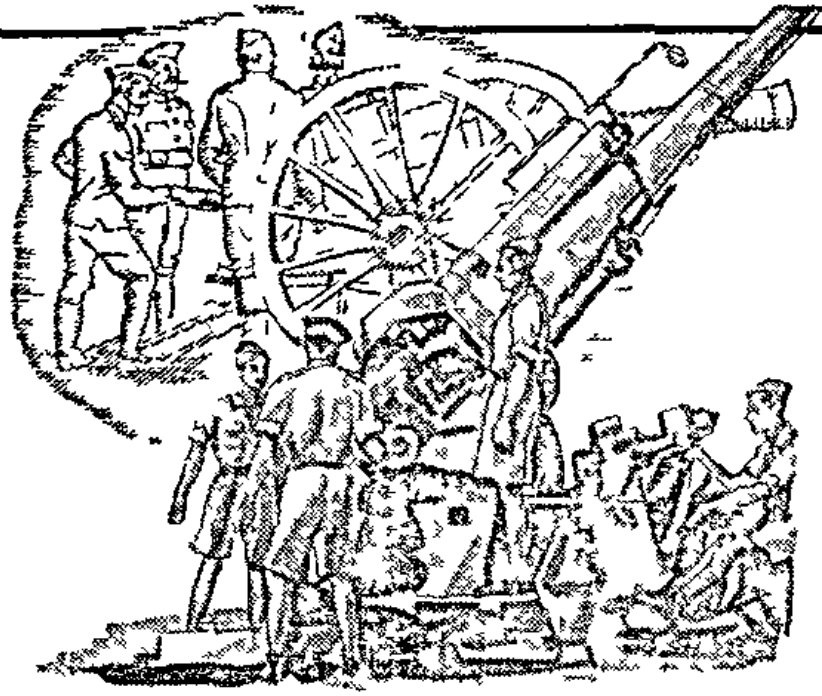
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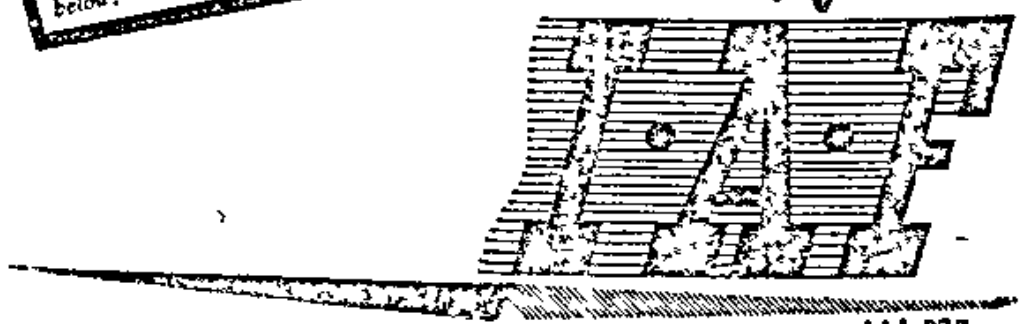
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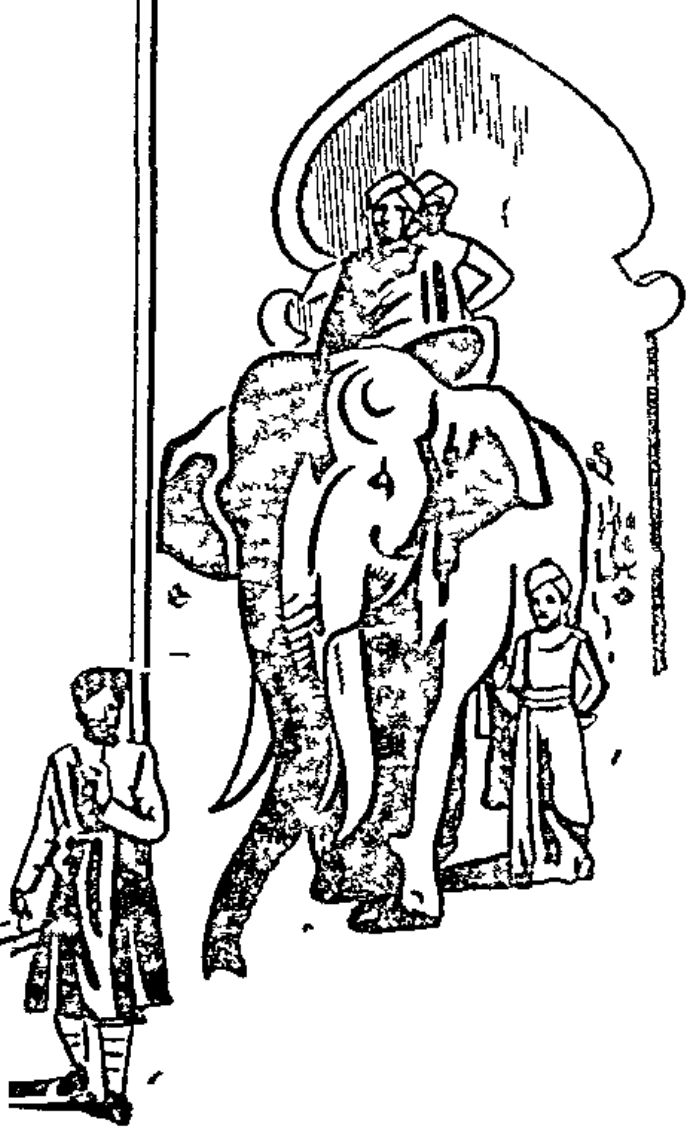
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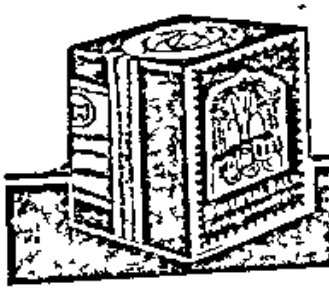
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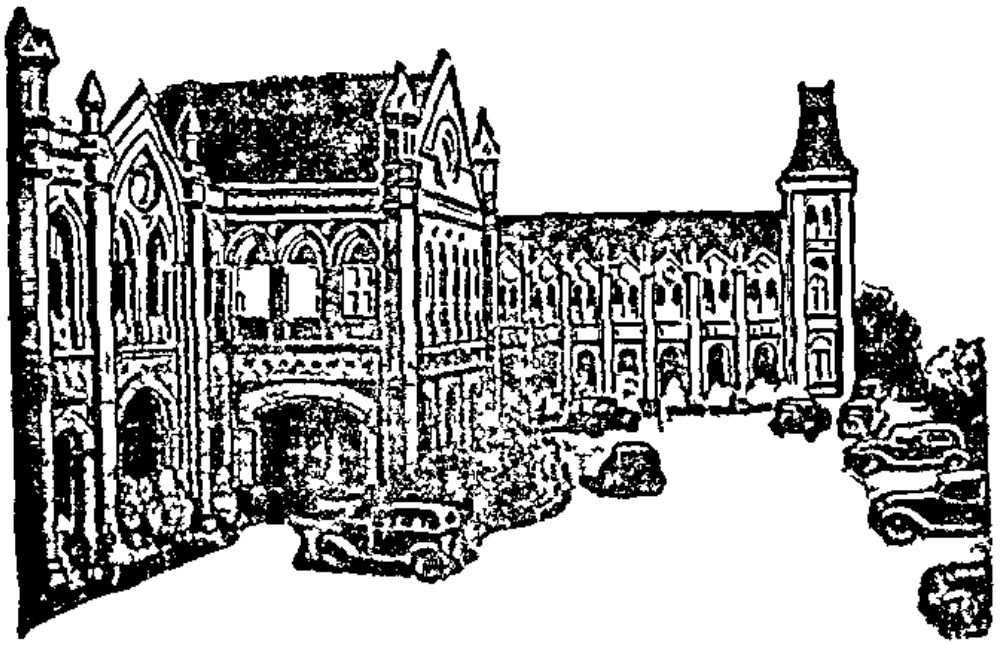
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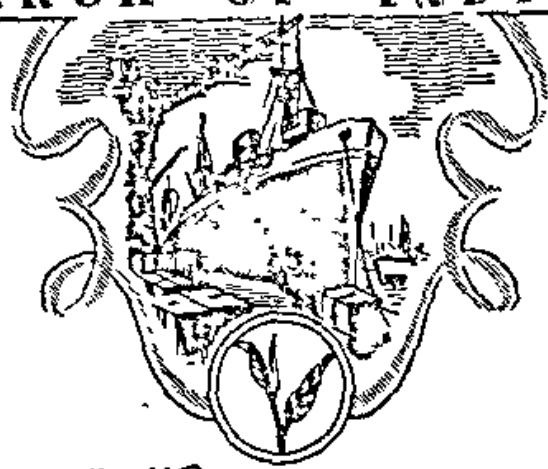
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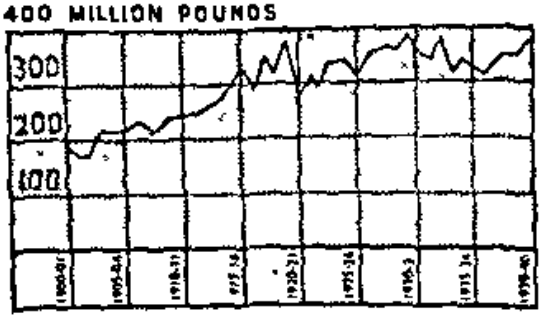
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL TOPICS OF INTEREST

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

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What will China be after the War

DEMOCRATIC OR AUTOCRATIC?

By Mr WANG HAN CHUNG

SINCE the end of Sian Coup immediately followed by the outbreak of the Sino Japanese War in 1937 China has become so cohesive and unified that its unity stands out as a stupendous achievement after the disintegration of the last hundred years The facts that the whole country is actually administered by a single government and that the whole nation is fighting the war under the leadership of a capable statesman and strategist look miraculous not only to the people in other countries but also to the Chinese themselves During six years and a half of hard struggle with the Japanese the morale of the whole nation has never shown any relaxation, not even when the bogus and puppet regime of the Japanese creature came into shape in the occupied areas There are some who are acquainted with the civil wars and party conflicts during the past years in China, but have neglected the fact that a tremendous change has gradually been going on during recent years, to such it will remain a riddle as to how China has attained the power to defy such a formidable enemy They may also ask the question what will China be after the War democratic or autocratic, and which form of government will be more acceptable to the Chinese people? It is natural that such questions should enter into the minds of those who are familiar with democratic principles and who consider them incompatible which one party rule in China With a view to make the situation intelligible to such readers the author will try to give some fundamental points regarding the present position of China

In the first instance, China is under the rule of a Government which was formed by one party the Kuomintang, and this form of government has stood unchanged since its first establishment in 1928 There is no doubt that this form of government could be easily criticised and evoke opposition in China as much as in any other country But after ten years of civil war between the Nationalists and the Communists and between the nationalists and the warlords obnoxious to the people the former not merely won a victory and established a principle but laid the foundations of a unified China, and thus paved the way for engaging In a life-and death struggle for freedom against Japan with the support of the whole country The reader should

remember that it was no easy task to win the hearts of such a vast population as of China. It is recognized that the success of the Kuomintang is attributable more to its principles and policy than to its military strength, for military power alone could do nothing more than suppressing rebellions. It may be asked what is the policy of the Kuomintang? It may correctly be said that the rule of the Kuomintang is but a transitional phenomenon. All its policy and measures are directed towards Democracy which, in the strict sence of the word, should be shared by all the people whose life should not be adversely restricted by any social or economical conditions Any person, under this ideal, stands equal to others before law. And in Dr Sun Yet-San's words, as soon as most of the provinces in China attain autonomy, a democratic constitution will be promulgated under which the political power now in the hands of the Kuomintang will be handed over to the people. All the measures and steps taken to put this supreme ideal into effect are set out in detail in Dr. Sun Yet-San's speeches and writings in which little room has been left for dispute or misinterpretations.

Secondly, the higher offices in the National Government have been open to prominent leaders of all the political groups since the war broke out, and any educated person, as long as he can do something for his country, is welcome in the administration, irrespective of the party to which he belongs This is how all the parties share the responsibilities of waging the anti-Japanese War and of the reconstruction of their own country under the leadership of the Kuomintang. The other main reason which urges all the people to make sacrifices for their country can be attributed to the influence of the Three People's Principle laid down by the late Kuomintang leader, Dr. Sun Yet-San. Any foreigner who has lived in China for sometime will clearly see things as they are But unexpectedly, there are a few who look differently at the situation For example, Mr. Leland Stowe, the American War Correspondent, once said in an American newspaper that many patriotic Chinese students and intellectuals are opposed to the one party rule of Kuomintang in China. This is untrue. The observation can easily be disproved by the fact that most of the college students in Free China are either becoming members of the Kuomintang or joining the Youth Corps of San-Ming-Chu-I which is pro-Kuomintang Few of them stand outside as unconcerned spectators. A further proof is provided to every foreigner resident in China in the activities of the new organisation of the People's Political Council in which a large number of non-Kuomintang party leaders as well as non-party politicians are seen working together and they are unreservedly taking an active part in war.

Apart from the visible factors in China there is a deep rooted liberalism in the Chinese mind, which is likely to be neglected by observers from abroad. The Chinese people deeply infused with the thought of Confucious and Mencius do not find anything exotic in the theory of Democracy. It is obvious to every school boy who has ever read the Chinese Classics that the people forms the main pillar of a state, and that it is the people alone who makes

the state strong A reflecx of this democratic mind was provided by the fact that the greatest despot of Tsin Dynasty (221 207 B C) in Chinese history was overthrown All the changes in the dynasties in Ancient China, if I am not mistaken, were due to the opposition of public opinion If one says that the Knomintang has disgusted the people because of its dictatorial spirit it will be much true in connection with Communist Party Of many errors which have been repeated by the supreme Communist leaders the most obnoxious was the policy of terrorism, for the terrible persecution by the Communists in 1917 still lives vividly in the minds of the common people A very large number of Communist leaders had to be successively expelled from their party when the war broke out Many facts have now come to light which explain the apparent failure of the communists in China

Communism cannot be accepted by the Chinese people In as much as the economic conditions in China are not like those pre Revolution Russia such a terrible experiment as a decade long bloodshed is no less than committing suicide The Chinese people know well that freedom and equality cannot be attained without national independence, it considers Communism impossible, impracti cable, and cruel They claim for freedom without as well as within Owing to this the Ching Dynasty was replaced by a new republic in 1912 After forty years of experimenting with various forms of government since the Revolution in 1911 only a Democracy free from foreign economic exploitation can appeal to the Chinese I would not say that the Nationalists are above all criticism But I would affirm that the success of the Kuomintang is largely due to the adaptability of its policy Besides the Kuomintang's policy discussed above it should be remembered that a constitutional government is not an ideal suspended in the air, it is rather a touchable reality which is being put into force without cessation As the supreme leader of the Kuomintang said in his address to the inaugural meeting of the Committee for the Establishment of Constitutional Govern- ment in China, which was held on November 12 in Chungking, what China needs is not only a good constitution but also the people s ardent support of the constitution and their ability to work it All the members of the Committee are devoting themselves to the preparatory work for the establishment of a constitutional government which is to be inaugurated within one year after the termination of the war The leaders lay emphasis not only on the adoption of a Constitution but also on its enforcement And therefore a constitutional government broadly based according to the dictates of democracy will be brought into effect as soon as the time is ripe for it

To sum up, the form of government in China after the war is beyond contention The most satisfactory answer to any doubt on this point lies, it seems to me, within the pages of the history of the latest events Time only will fully justify the present and bring the fruit of the future.

GANDHIJI'S LATEST

IN our last number reference was made to Gandhiji's request to the Viceroy to facilitate an interview with the members of the Congress Working Committee, or with His Excellency himself with a view to discuss the situation *de novo* and end the deadlock which has persisted since the failure of the Cripps mission. The text of the correspondence has since been published. In his letter of June 17 (1944), Gandhiji said:

Though there is little cause for it, the whole country and even many from outside expect me to make some decisive contribution to the general good. I am sorry to say my convalescence threatens to be fairly long Even if I was quite well, I could do little or nothing unless I knew the mind of the Working Committee of the Congress I pleaded as a prisoner for permission to see them. I plead now as a free man for such permission. If you will see me before deciding, I shall gladly go wherever you want me to, as soon as I am allowed by my medical advisers to undertake long distance travelling.

Instead of profiting by the initiative thus taken by Gandhiji, Lord Wavell who had, in his address to the Central Legislature, himself invited the Mahatma to co-operate with him in ending the deadlock, turned down the request rather curtly when he said in his reply of June 22:

In consideration of the radical difference in our points of view which appeared in our recent correspondence, I feel that a meeting between us at present could have no value and could only raise hopes which would be disappointed.

I am afraid that similar considerations apply to your request to see the Working Committee You have recently made public your adherence to the 'Quit India' resolution, which, I am afraid, I do not regard as a reasonable or practical policy for the immediate future

There was, however, one sentence in that letter which left a ray of hope:

If after your convalescence and on further reflection you have a definite and constructive policy to promote for the furtherance of India's welfare, I shall be glad to consider it.

Gandhiji who never let the grass grow under his feet, quietly took advantage of this "If" and was looking for a favourable opportunity to put forward his own "definite and constructive policy for the furtherance of India's welfare."

The opportunity came with what is now known as the Gelder interview for the *News Chronicle* in the second week of July Gandhiji, with an admirable sense of political realism, saw the rot that has set in with the continued stalemate in the country. In the past he never failed to take bold decisions when occasions demanded and he now seems to have quickly risen to the height of the present occasion.

I have no intention of offering civil disobedience to day I cannot take the country back to 1942. History can never be repeated. Even without authority of the Congress if I wanted to do it I could start civil disobedience to-day on the strength of my supposed influence with the masses, but I would be doing so merely to embarrass the British Government. This cannot be my object.

The Mahatma expressed himself in these words in his interview to Mr. Stuart Gelder, special correspondent of the *News Chronicle*. Further Gandhiji is willing to advise the Congress participation in a war time National Government in full control of civil administration coupled with a guarantee of Indian independence after the war. In Mr Gelder's opinion the Government now has a better opportunity than at any time, since Sir Stafford Cripps landed in India, to put end to dealock and create a new India, which instead of being half-hearted

or sullenly indifferent is enthusiastically on the side of Britain

When pointed out that the Viceroy would want to know Gandhiji would influence the Working Committee members before His Excellency would permit a meeting with them, Gandhiji replied that history did not repeat itself

The whole situation has to be reviewed anew The point therefore, for me is to discuss with the Working Committee to know how they react to the knowledge I have gained since my release I have to take up the thread that was broken by the Government in 1942 I was the first to negotiate on failure to offer civil disobedience if I thought it necessary I want to plead with the Viceroy I can only do so when I know the Working Committee's mind

Mr Gelder revealed that he visited Delhi to give the Viceroy a complete account of his talk with Gandhiji at Poona Gandhiji however, felt it was not of much use For, said the Mahatma

The common talk among us is that whatever the Viceroy wishes personally, he has no authority in the political field Mr Churchill does not want a settlement He wants to crush me if he has been correctly reported He never denied the report The beauty of it for me, the pity of it for him is no one can crush a satyagrahi who offers the body, willingly for sacrifice thus leaving the spirit free

In Mr. Gelder's opinion in view of Mr Gandhi's uncompromising pacifism, he would cease to function as adviser to the Congress after independence is gained

The *News Chronicle* in an editorial commented

Mr Gandhi's latest gesture shows the way out of the deadlock Obviously the prerequisite must be successful negotiations between Muslims and Hindus

Subsequently the Mahatma handed over two statements to press representatives which, he said, were two sets of notes prepared after discussion with an English journalist One statement, said Mahatma Gandhi, was intended for publication after the journalist had communicated his impressions of Mahatma Gandhi to the Viceroy in Delhi and the other statement contained notes of talks, which the Mahatma gave to the journalist to discuss with anyone who cared to understand Mahatma Gandhi and how his mind was working

The following are the main points in the two statements

(1) Mr Gandhi could do nothing without consulting the Congress Working Committee

(2) If he met the Viceroy he would tell him that he sought the interview with a view to help and not hinder Allied war effort

(3) He has no intention of offering civil disobedience History can never be repeated and he cannot take the country back to 1942

(4) The world has moved on during the last two years The whole situation has to be reviewed *de novo*

(5) Today he would be satisfied with a National Government in full control of civil administration

(6) Mr Gandhi would advise Congress participation in a National Government if formed

(7) After independence was assured he would probably cease to function as adviser to the Congress

"The statements constitute my individual personal effort to end the deadlock" said the Mahatma to pressmen

They are more addressed to the powers that be than to the people If there is a hearty response there will be no occasion for civil disobedience

"I hold the 'Quit India' resolution to be absolutely innocuous", said the Mahatma

The Gelder interview notes are in no way in conflict with the 'Quit India' resolution I have interpreted it.

The question before me and before all India is how to implement the resolution at the present time, *i.e*, *nearly two years* after the passing of the resolution The Gelder interview notes *show the way how it can be done in a* perfectly honourable manner

Explaining the difference between his and Cripps' *proposals*, Mahatma Gandhi said:

My proposal is wholly different The Cripps *proposals* were unacceptable to me for the simple reason that they contemplated almost *perpetual* vivisection of India and would have created an effective barrier against Indian *independence*

The Mahatma told a United Press representative.

My plan contemplates an immediate recognition of full independence for India as a whole, *subject to the limitations* for the duration of the war to meet the requirements of the Allied *operations. The Cripps plan, as* I understand it, *dealt more with the future than with the immediate arrangements*

"Moreover", added the Mahatma.

In my opinion the Crippa plan meant the dismemberment of India, the Indian States being set up as an all extensive disintegrating factor

Replying to the views expressed by British statesmen that Gandhiji's plan comes very near to the Cripps plan and that there is no difference between his plan and the proposals of the former Lord Privy Seal the Mahatma added:

But if my plan is considered by the British *statesmen to be not very* different from the Cripps plan, it should be all the easier for them to *accept it.*

As might be expected, there were criticisms of the Mahatma's new plan from *different* quarters. Answering the critics, the Mahatma contended that there was no conflict between the principles enunciated in the August Resolution and what he had now suggested in his recent interview. He told pressmen in a further talk he had with them:

Some of my correspondents say that, under the *influence of moderates and moneyed men, I have* betrayed the cause of the country. If for nothing *else for dealing with such critics, I am glad* of the premature publication of the interview. I do not want to sail under *false colours. The* country as well as the Government should know me exactly as *I* am. I have never concealed the fact that I am a friend of everybody, moderates, moneyed men, Englishmen, Americans or any other, irrespective of caste, colour or persuasion. My belief and practice are directly derived from my non-violence My non co-operation is non co operation with evil, not with the evil-doer. Underneath my non-co-operation is my earnest desire to wean the evil-doer from the evil or harm he is doing, so that I can give him hearty co-operation Again if I associate with so-called moderates or with moneyed men, I do so to seek their co operation in the case I am handling But I approach them with an open mind, so that I correct *myself* where I find myself in the wrong I have known of no cause that I have espoused that has suffered because of such association.

Some critics have suggested that by my present *attitude* I am *lending moral* weight to *the allied* cause. They forget that my offer, such as it is, *is conditioned upon the Allies*, in this case the British Government, recognising full independence, *qualified during the pendency* of the war. I see, therefore, no conflict between the principles *enunciated in the August Resolution and* what I have now suggested. May I suggest to critics *that they should wait till the British Government* have spoken! The statements made by me were *meant in the first instance for* the Government, Mr. Gelder sprung a surprise He has done so *with the best of motives. After all, there is* a higher power ruling all the actions of human beings."

"If the indication of my mind affords any *satisfaction to the authorities, they should* open the gates of the prison and let those who can speak with authority to pronounce upon my proposal or at least let me confer with them", said Mahatma Gandhi when

asked by the United Press Special Representative, in the course of his exclusive interview with Gandhiji, as to how Gandhiji proposed to fix the ratio of the League, and the Congress in the National Government

Pleading for a dispassionate examination of his proposals on their merits, Mahatma Gandhi in a subsequent interview at Panchgani declared: "I should not mind a climb down if it resulted in the attainment of Independence" He denied that the favourable war situation had anything to do with his proposals

if only for the simple reason that in the flush of approaching victory my proposal was not likely even to receive a hearing

He asserted that he had no sense of defeat in making his proposal and added that throughout his long public life he had not experienced a sense of defeat, heavy or otherwise

Gandhiji said that he knew many Congressmen were labouring under a sense of frustration but even that frustration was momentary.

Victory, i.e., the independence of India as a whole is a certainty

The Mahatma said that it might not come in his lifetime was a matter of indifference to him

I can but work for it till the end of my life Victory will come, when God wills it

This invincible faith has been at the back of the Mahatma's mind when, at the risk of strong opposition even in his own camp, he expressed himself in favour of the Rajaji formula to bring about a Congress League settlement It was understood, that in deference to Mr. Jinnah's wishes, Gandhiji himself communicated to Mr Jinnah, the Rajagopalachari formula for a Congress League settlement But what good are all efforts when the British Government are determined to sit tight? Both Lord Munster in the House of Lods and Mr Amery in the Commons have refused to budge an inch from their privileged position It was in view of the Viceroy's plea for co operation that Gandhiji made what is considered by all as constructive suggestion If it is not accepted 'even as a basis for a friendly discussion' said Gandhiji, commenting on the debate in the Lords, "I must reluctantly come to the conclusion that the British Government do not want a fair solution of what I consider is a deadlock but what they may not consider as such"

However earnest I may be in my efforts to reach a solution, I know I can do nothing if there is no response from the British Government How I wish that the bogey of communal differences had not been raised in the debate I have contended, as I contend even now that differences there must be so long as there is a ruling third party to exploit them I have spoken what I feel to be the truth The occasion is too serious for me to hide it

The Commons debate is for me "a terrible pointer," said Gandhiji

It confirms me in my opinion that the 'Quit India' resolution was no hasty cry, conceived in anger To put the same in Parliamentary language it demands that India must be now governed by Indians chosen by her own people—not a cotery but the whole mass of the people without distinction of race creed or colour

It is a great pity that the Lords and the Commons have turned down my offer The Allies will have their victory but the exploited races will not feel the glow of it They will know that the seeds of another and deadlier war will be sown by that very victory I ask myself the question "must rivers of blood flow for such an empty victory"

MY SPIRITUAL IDEAL

BY Dr. SIR P. S. SIVASWAMI AIYAR, K.C.S.I.

—) O (—

THE subject is not an easy one to tackle. It involves an analysis and examination of a number of concepts. In the first place, what is meant by 'ideal'; and in the next place, what is meant by 'spiritual'? The word 'ideal' has many meanings, and I do not propose to go through all the possible meanings given in the dictionary. What it denotes in the present context is a standard of excellence.

Does it imply an objective which is capable of being attained or realised? To my mind, this is not necessary. It is something which should be sought or striven for, and furnishes a standard or pattern. The ideal may or may not be attainable. It does not cease to be an ideal if it cannot be attained. Perfection, for instance, may be suggested as an ideal. But it is hardly ever attainable Even supposing that perfection is, or should be, the ideal, it does not carry us far, for it conveys no clear idea as to the contents of perfection. Perfection or ideal may relate to various matters and would depend upon the ends or objectives we have in view. It may be physical, material, moral, intellectual, æsthetic or spiritual. Absolute perfection in all things, qualities or attributes is hardly ever realised except in God. This again would carry us to the question of the nature of God. It may perhaps be sufficient to say that God is another name for all round perfection or perfection in all things.

Perfection is very often capable of being used relatively with reference to particular objects of contemplation or endeavour. A horse may be described as perfect if we have in view its shape, speed, endurance or capacity for carrying. A subtle intellect capable of clear thought and analysis may be regarded as a form of excellence and as an ideal to be cultivated. A beautiful picture may be regarded as falling within the world of the ideal. A well-built athlete may be an ideal of physical beauty. Purity of life, character and conduct may be so high as to furnish an ideal to be followed or admired. There are many elements which enter into our conception of excellence of the standard and raise it to the level of the ideal.

When we speak of spiritual ideals, we have to form a clear conception of what is meant by 'spiritual'. We have to exclude physical and material things. To my mind, an ideal denotes an end and not a means. It refers to a state or condition to be achieved and not to the means of achieving it. *Prima facie* the words 'spiritual ideal' relate to character and conduct. Asceticism and self sacrifice are not ends in themselves. Contentment, equanimity and peace of mind would be very desirable states of mind and worth cultivating. Active philanthropy, patriotism and various forms of altruistic conduct may be commended as falling within the sphere of spiritual ideals. The practice of *Yoga* or meditation would be a means to the attainment of mental equilibrium, but it is not an end in itself. My spiritual ideal would include altruism, bliss, *bhakti* or devotion, and the contemplation of perfection in the shape of divinity. It is not possible to attempt any further definition.

(Contributed to a symposium compiled by Mr. Krishna Mangesh Talgeri, M.A., of Hubli.)

THE SOVIET EXPERIMENT

By Mr T R VENKATARAMA SASTRIAR, CIE

THERE is just now great admiration for Russia as a military power and there is revived interest among all sections in the history of her plans and achievements within the last two decades Power is envied and admired, as often as it is hated and cursed When it is turned against us we curse it Finland, Lithuania Esthonia and Latvia curse the might of U S S R as an impediment to their freedom When it is not turned against us and even more so when it is ranged on our side, we give it unstinted admiration Of its general tendency, thinkers have ever been critical, both in the East and in the West "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely' has now become a common saying From Bana of twelve hundred years ago, we have a more comprehensive indictment

Rajya visha vikaronmada karini khalu rajya lakshmih
Na silam pasyati, na dharmam anurudhyati, na satyam palayati

That is, Regal Power, intoxicated by the poisonous effects of rule, does not observe established usages, pays no heed to the dictates of righteousness and does not respect its pledged word A not inadequate description of modern international behaviour All this notwithstanding, power, military power, impresses Stories of peace time achievements do not impress We receive them with suspicion and incredulity Now that they are attested by the display of superb military capacity and the winning of phenomenal successes, we are inclined to examine the history of the last twenty years of Russian plans and their execution

I remember travelling with an English naval officer in the first fortnight after the German declaration of war on Russia He estimated the duration of Russia's resistance to Germany at about six weeks Hitler hoped to win the war in two months, before the advent of winter These contemptuous estimates were soon disproved, but defeat still seemed inevitable and only a question of time Things uncertainly dragged on for a time, and when at last the tide of war turned slowly in favour of Russia, there was no one that was not astonished, unless G B S claims to be an exception True, he always spoke of the ultimate success of Russia, but it may not be an unjust suspicion that he was not serious and was only exercising the Shavian privilege of walking on the other side of the road, apart from all others At any rate he was not taken seriously at the time Now one is inclined to exclaim: "How lucky it was that no one knew the real strength of Russia!" If Hitler had not been, like all others, ignorant of her strength, he would not have declared war, and it might then have gone very hard with the Allies

What distance separates the Czarist Russia from the Soviet Russia of Stalin! And yet it is a fifteen year, a bare fifteen year, plan that has made all the difference True, there is much to be said against her methods pursued through the intervening years and much has been said and written All that duly remembered, surprise, wonder and admiration still remain asking the question how all that could have been achieved in so short a period

Hitler knew that he could not win on two fronts at the same time and could not be defeated in one. But he calculated on not being called on to fight in two fronts at the same time. Having disposed of the powers of the continent on the west, he thought of subjugating the east and possessing himself of all that he needed, oil and food, before he turned to the west again But his calculations proved mistaken and his premature breach with Russia led him into the very thing that he wished to avoid. Thus does intoxicated power compass its own defeat.

Not only in war but also in diplomacy has Stalin shown his vision and skill. Britain and U. S A have come to see the need to recognise her and accommodate to her claims at least for the moment. In the unseen subtle trials of strength that go on all the time unremittingly in a warring international world, Stalin has been able to hold his own. He is wide awake to the trial of strength that awaits him at the Peace Conference at the end of the war, as awake as the Allies That all of them are full of mutual suspicion and are sleeplessly at work in the disposition of forces for the peace table and after is not wholly concealed from the rest of the world.

The first two books* are the result of admiring labour. Mr Hirlekar has made the leading Soviet authorities speak, including Stalin himself. About thirty of these leaders expound what has been achieved in Russia by the three five-year plans. Mr. Tutaeff gives a history of a Caucasus from which Stalin hails and I guess the author too. The short history includes Prometheus and Jason of mythology as connected with the Caucasus and introduces us to an eleventh century Elizabeth and her Shakespeare. Queen Tamara is presented as a very able ruler who united Christians and Muslims under her impartial banner. But the real subject of the book is how Hitler planned to conquer the province for its oil and for the achievement of his project of meeting the Japs moving from the east somewhere midway in Southern Asia, and and how it failed partly by the nerve and strength of Turkey against Germany's trial of both. One may describe the book as claiming that Caucasus has guarded the east from invasion by Germany. These two books issued by Indian publishers of Bombay and Allahabad indicate the widespread interest in India in Russian achievements. What one country has done another may also do. Is there anything that we can learn from their experience?

It is not easy to summarise. But something must be attempted to give an idea to the reader. The following may be gathered from these books:

> Mortality has decreased by 40 per cent. Smallpox has been reduced by 96 per cent.; and typhoid by 71 per cent.; and diphtheria by 80 per cent.
>
> Medical care and hospital service are free. There is provision made for age and disability. 10,800,000,000 roubles were spent on health services alone in 1937.
>
> Unemployment is unknown More workers are needed.

*SOVIET RUSSIA. Edited by Mr. K. S. Hirlekar, Popular Book Depot, Bombay
SOVIET CAUCASUS By Mr. David Tutaeff, India Publishers, Allahabad.
SOCIALISM RECONSIDERED By Mr. Minoo Masani, Padma Publications, Bombay.

Agriculture has been mechanised, 80 per cent tillage being by machines and harvesting by tractors There were 6 350 service stations in 1938 with 153 500 tilling machines and 483,500 tractors Yield in 1933 was 2 200 lbs, in 1937, it was 5,060 lbs per acre, exclusive of seed, payments in grain for services and fodder 18 800,000 families were prosperous

Socialised industries were 99 7 per cent of the whole Large scale industries have increased from 11 billion roubles of Czarist Russia to 100 billion roubles in 1938

The growth from 1933 to 1938 is exhibited in crores as below National income from 4 850 to 10 500 roubles, annual pay roll from 3 495 to 9 642 roubles, wages from an annual 1 513 to 3,447 roubles Educational provision in Czarist Russia for 7, 8 millions has now been improved to 34 millions now in schools and colleges There is no village without a library The proud claim is that hunger, poverty ignorance have been abolished in Russia

Racial and national animosities have been abolished

Oil reserves have gone up from 900 million tons to 8,700 million tons

No national debt Payment readily made for all foreign commitments Gold mining pays

In nearly all industries originally very low in the scale, she is now first or second in Europe except in automobiles, fourth and third in coal

Arctic circle is made habitable and Arctic Ocean has become navigable

The first five year programme was finished in four The second put an end to exploitation And the third has developed light industries, transport, communications and defence

It is an impressive tale, for fuller details of which the reader must turn to the books themselves

The third book merits careful attention It is critical of the objectives and methods of Soviet Russia Mr Masani was an admirer of Soviet Russia previously Even now he speaks highly of her achievements But he has been disillusioned in regard to her objectives after his later visit in 1935 It seems to us that he has moved away from Russian communism farther than he at present realises When the objectives themselves are brought under reconsideration, it cannot but be so Mr Masani himself says that he has in the book put more questions than he has endeavoured to answer When his reconsideration is completed, he must tell us again what he would prescribe as the proper programme for our country At present there is a certain conflict between his old and his new attitudes to communism which are not resolved, decisively, one way or another, in his own mind

Non violence has now become cardinal It now takes a higher place in the mind of the author under the more recent influence of Mahatma Gandhi's thought Without it democracy and freedom now seem unrealisable In 1927, the results attained by Russia were so impressive that the violence through which that result was attained was then overlooked The liquidation of Kulaks and the oppositionists was not all after 1927 The changes noticed in 1935 did not immediately lead to re examination But hope still remained that the movement might correct itself It required other changes in the author's outlook to lead him to undertake a re examination of the whole matter Gandhism, among other influences, has

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produced this changed outlook. Still a struggle between the old and the new outlooks is in evidence and awaits resolution.

If non-violence is cardinal, the cautious hesitancy of social democrats in England is not discreditable to them if in their view a strong move along certain lines would lead to a violent clash between classes. If the inevitability of gradualness led to inaction, strong action may lead to violent revolutionary upheaval. To keep to non-violence and yet be dynamic is the problem. Again if the Russian movement should retain its international character, the complaint that it has become a subordinate branch of the Russian foreign office loses point as also the complaint that communists in all countries look to Russia for guidance If, on the other hand, Russia should leave other countries to solve their own problems, the dissolution of the Comintern is a right step. Incapacity of democracies, the unreal character of the peoples owning the State and managerial revolution are confusing strains of thought which require to be cleared up by a considered statement of what we should aim at as the next step.

I am with the author in the importance that he attaches to democracy, freedom and non-violence. But at the same time, it must be added that the simple and intelligible objectives of food, health and education for all should not be allowed to fall into inattention. The unfortunate tendency in the world is to meet just claims with mere promises, without intending to pay any heed until they fall into a violent phase and then to meet it by suppression followed by fresh promises with the same old cycle until suppression is felt likely to end in disaster. If the objectives are conceded, as they seem to be even in the industrialists' scheme, and steady unremitting efforts by legislative and executive action are in active evidence, there is no need to resort to violent revolutionary methods. Mr. A C. Pigou has commended the steady revolutionary pursuit of socialist aims as a means of avoiding violent revolutions.

Every one will agree that Finland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden have shown how socialist ends may be attained by other methods than those of Russia and also how nations can prosper without exploiting others. Every one will also agree that such goodwill as there is among the members of the Labour Party in England is tempered by the idea pressed on them that their own superior standard of living is dependent on the possession and exploitation of other countries. Imperialism is in truth a demoralisation of the ruling country as much as of the ruled countries but how can we expect Imperialism revelling in its glory to recognise that fact.

Few have knowledge such as the author has of the Russian experiment derived from visits to Russia and an extensive study of books dealing with it. A fuller exposition of his views and their application to India may be expected. However it seems to me that in the conditions that existed in Russia, conditions of foreign aggression and internal strife encouraged by the agressors, the course she took was inevitable with all its consequences. It may be that she must retrace her steps in certain directions and must introduce correctives as to things that

have gone wrong She did wisely in dissolving the Comintern, as it seems to me Other countries must consider their own problems in the light of their own conditions We cannot have Stalins even if we wanted them They are foreign to our genius and cannot grow in our soil Steady and strenuous efforts to increase production and promote just distribution by providing employment for all may be a wise enough immediate programme as far as our eyes can see at present Planning beyond a point may be a leap in the dark It is only as we get along that we can determine the exact road that we must traverse to reach our goal

SIR P. C. RAY'S TESTAMENT*

I HAVE often said in my addresses to young men that I became a chemist almost by mistake, my predilections being always towards history, biography and general literature There is nothing uncommon in it Huxley has told us that though he earned his name and fame as a zoologist, philosophy and history having laid hold of him in this eccentric fashion have never loosened their grip The monograph on Hume in the English Men of Letters series amply bears it out Lord Haldane, eminent as he was in the field of philosophy, shed lustre on his profession as a lawyer and shone with equal brilliance as a statesman Such instances can be multiplied

I confess I am a strange contradiction Although I am generally credited with being an industrialist, yet from the dawn of my intelligence the ephemeral character of the phenomenal world has haunted me, a disregard for worldly effects has become my second nature Thus the writer lacks the essentials of a successful industrialist or businessman, as he has always realised the force of the saying, *Arthamanartham Bhavaya Nityam*, that is to say — 'love of money is the root of all evil". So the dominant note running through his life is: 'Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, for where thy treasure is, there is thy heart also

Any one who will take the trouble to go through these pages will, I hope, all the same find that there is a connecting link pervading my life work and that activities are but part in a comprehensive piece In other words, he will probably be convinced that I have not lived an aimless life

It is unfortunate that in one's own memoir the frequent use of the first person singular cannot be dispensed with, one naturally lays oneself open to the reproach of egotism An awful burden of reponsibility has borne me down whenever I have to use it. Whatever field I have ploughed I have ploughed as an humble instrument in the hand of Providence my failures are my own, to err is human. But my merits, if any, are to be attributed to the guidance of the All knowing, Who chose me to be his humble instrument After all, a

* Epilogue to Dr Ray's "Life and Experiences"

Waldo Emerson, known in midcentury America as the founder of a new faith; and the Upanishads were discussed in public "Conversations" Many Americans who gape at some of today's cults would be surprised to know how much, thanks to Concord Orientalism, the true teachings of Hinduism have had to do with the free thought they take for granted.

DESTINY OF MEN OF CONCORD

It was the destiny of the men of Concord—of Emerson particularly, and of his neighbours, Henry David Thoreau and Bronson Alcott of the "Conversations"—to break away from traditional Puritanism (which has been defined as "an uncomfortable personal relationship with an offended God") and to seek with open minds the meaning of the universe. Through the clamour of the bells of the established church and the din of the new steam engines their strong voices were clearly heard discoursing on Reality and the Over Soul. Hindu scriptures did not give them their philosophy; rather, their own experiences and institutions led them to the sacred writings of the East. Yankees though they were, they met themselves in Oriental literature; projected themselves into it; used it as an illustration of their own theory of how to treat books and history, and from the Eastern store borrowed expressions to give lustre to their prose

Since two oceans and unnumbered years separated Concord from the India of the Vedas, the American philosophers were fortunate in living at a time when the translations of gifted European scholars were making Hindu teachings available in the West. Various channels connected the publishing houses of Europe with Emerson's library in the little provincial American town and the achievements of men like Sir Charles Wilson and Henry Colebrooke are inseparable from the growth of Concord Orientalism

Emerson was the sage, the pure intellect of the group Although he had been ordained a minister, he was impelled, like any Hindu, to consider a negation of the personal attributes of God.

"I deny personality to God," he said, "because it is too little, not too much."

His indifferent God, ruling the world with an inexorable law called Compensation, was foreign in a predominantly Calvinistic land. He was not the Father of Christ

"NATURE MAKES A BRAHMAN OF ME"

"Nature makes a Brahman of me presently", Emerson wrote. "Eternal necessity, eternal compensation, unfathomable power, unbroken silence, this is her creed."

Emerson's essay on "Compensation" and all that he wrote in his diaries indicate how far he had travelled from the theism of his time and how near he had come to the Karma of Hindu thinkers. "You think me a child of my circumstances I make my circumstance"

And the doctrine of Maya finds faithful echo in his theory of "Illusion". In his attitude toward the illusion, however, East and West part Where a Hindu might traditionally see in the material world only the absence of God, darkness and evil, Emerson looked upon it and found it good. At this point the American Transcendentalist diverged, but not before he had availed

himself freely of Hindu teaching Eager minds, then as now, read and re read his splendid rugged 'Essays" and the mystic poems "Brahma," "Threnody," "Hamatreya," where he offered his solution of "the question schoolboys ask and philosophers fail to answer"

It was Emerson who first drew Thoreau's attention to the literature of the Orient After reading Manu, Thoreau wrote

"I cannot read a sentence in the book of the Hindus without being elevated as upon the table land of the Ghauts At this late hour, unworn by time it wears the English dress (Sir William Jones' translation) as indifferently as the Sanskrit The great tone of the book is of much fibre and such severe tension that no time or accident can relax it"

A little mound of stones today marks the site on Walden pond where Thoreau repaired for several solitary years to seek the forest, to live in the shack he built for himself on the clear water's edge, to reflect, undistracted, until the distinction between the true values and the false should finally appear As Buddha and the Bhagavat Gita recommended, he dwelt alone In a secret place without craving and without possessions. The Yogi wrapped in his contemplations is not a far cry from the picture Thoreau gives of himself sitting in his sunny doorway, lost in reverie, oblivious of time from sunset to noon, oblivious even of the songs of birds

"I learned this at least by my experiment," he wrote, "that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavours to live the life which he has imagined he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours He will put some things behind, will pass an invisible boundary, and he will live with the licence of a higher order of beings"

'Walden,' once taken as the handbook of the British Labour Party, is the great record of Thoreau's experiment and the sum of his conclusions organized society

'EVEN I AM A YOGI'

Thoreau never would have advocated the insanity of all men building Walden shanties, he recognized the Sankyha system as the only possible one for the mass of men But as he said "Free in this world as the birds in the air, disengaged from every kind of chains, those who practise the Yoga gather in Brahma the certain fruits of their works

"To some extent and at rare intervals, even I am a Yogi'

Alcott was the third most conspicuous member of the Concord Orientalists Instead of immersing himself in nature, like Thoreau, or brooding on and writing about the Over Soul like Emerson, he made his chief interest the universal scriptures of men

Arranging for the translation of Edwin Arnold's 'Light of Asia," he wrote in his diary "The book will be read with surprise by most and raise curious questions in the mind of Christians generally'

He was right, and as a result of his enterprise 80 American editions followed the first printing of the English poet's rendering of the life of Buddha

As Dean of the Concord Summer School of Philosophy, Alcott worked to promulgate mystic lore, American interest

in the Orientals needed a man who would work as a house-to-house colporteur, with his personal enthusiasm and brilliant talk in drawing rooms doing what the pen of Emerson and Thoreau could not do in the study and hermitage. Alcott was that man.

All three men were widely read in the Orientals before they published a single one of the books which were to have such a wide and liberal influence on American thought in the 19th century and which, in the case of "Walden" and Emerson's "Essay," have taken their places as classics in the language. The sacred books of the Hindus answered their probing questions in a way which Western writers never approached and they became to them a delight.

The Orientalism of the men of Concord had a marked influence on their great contemporary, Walt Whitman, the poet Whitman told Thoreau that he had never read any of the Indian scriptures and asked to be told about them. But many scholars have noted ideas obviously arising in the Orient which pervade his important poems. And his famous "Passage to India" is a plan for uniting the intellectual life of the West with the spiritual life of the East. He drew his ideas to some extent from miscellaneous reading in which the Hindu classics were described; but more particularly at second hand from Emerson, who was the master; that contact, as he said himself, brought the pot of his genius to the boiling point.

EVIDENCE OF THE DIARIES

If it were necessary to look beyond their works, the diaries and tablets and journals of the men of Concord would furnish constant evidence of their enthusiasm for the Hindu classics.

Of the Bhagavata Purana, Emerson said, "Ah, there is a book to read on one's knees."

And again, "Milman's translation of Nala and Damayanti is nearer to my business and bosom than is the news in today's Boston *Journal*. I am admonished and comforted as I read."

Thoreau confessed, "I have never read a novel. They have so little real life and thought in them The reading which I love best is the scriptures of the several nations, though it happens I am better acquainted with those of the Hindus, the Chinese and the Persians than of the Hebrews, which I have come to last. Give me one of these Bibles and you have silenced me for a while."

And Alcott, who *lived*, as one biographer observed, in a state of quiet ecstasy, described in his Tablets the project that was near his heart all his life:

"*Very* desirous it were, since the gates of the East are now opening wide and giving free commerce of mind with mind, to collect and compare the Bibles of the races for general circulation and careful reading."

After all the defence, Emerson, Thoreau and Alcott bestowed on the Orientals, there is poetic justice in recording the manner in which some Orientals have responded. Hindus in particular have appreciated the affinity between themselves and the Transcendentalists. Men like Mozoomdar and Maitra have found in Emerson a fresh interpretation of their ancient thought.

"Emerson translated into the language of modern culture," said Herambachandra Maitra, writing in the Harvard *Theological Review*, "what was uttered by the sages of ancient India in the loftiest strains."

We are told that on his death-bed Sankara prayed to be forgiven for frequenting temples, since by so doing he had seemed to deny the omnipresence of God. To that prayer the men of Concord would have given a fervent "Amen."

DEMOCRATIC INTERNATIONALISM

By Prof R Bhaskaran

We are told, and we can also see, that we live in a closely knit world which goes on shrinking with every improvement in transport and communication Nothing can happen anywhere in the world without affecting all the continents and every nation Each human community influences, and is influenced by every other, no group of men exists in perfect isolation This mutual dependence of nations and states is a fact so patent that it may be called a truism Yet it urgently needs to be stated *now, because* the end of the war is not far away and we have to face the problems of peace

Assuming that we plan for prosperity and peace and not for scarcity and war, it is necessary that national plans should be compatible with one another Thus for the better world of tomorrow, we need a guarantee of universal peace and an over all scheme of reconstruction into which every national plan may be fitted without violence or injustice No single nation, however powerful, can guarantee world peace, and no single nation, however honest, can be trusted to plan the welfare of the entire world Only the constant and unselfish co operation of the nations of the earth can make possible the new world order we desire

But international co operation on the scale necessary for our purposes is not easy to secure The chief obstacle in our way is the stubborn spirit of nationalism which prevails all around us An international outlook must become as powerful and popular as nationalism is today, if we are to move to higher levels of human life and achievement For the spread of such an outlook we need a preliminary and simple declaration of faith

I do not suggest that nationalism is wrong or foolish, and I cannot believe that it is played out But internationalism has a greater claim on our attention than we are disposed to admit Not that internationalism is new or strange Just as interdependence implies independence, internationalism implies nationalism, and historically internationalism is coeval with *nationalism*

The sovereign nation state is nearly 400 years old in Europe It was created by dynastic rulers and became a law unto itself Each state was jealous of its honour and keen in pursuit of its interests as it understood them States, therefore, made war upon one another and devastated Europe Then European states expanded overseas and colonial wars followed as a matter of course When the thirteen *colonies repudiated British overlordship,* a new nation arose in the New World in a totally new way—the way of self determination Political independence became the hall mark of nationhood after the French Revolution, and nations grew stronger and more self conscious when dynastic rulers were replaced by popular leaders After the war of 1914 18 the democratic principle of self determination was applied in drawing national frontiers and so the world is today divided among sovereign national states There are also large groups of people who have not achieved national sovereignty and are not yet capable of self determination These,

however, are on the road to political independence and self-determined nationhood under the guidance of one or other Western nation Such is the context made for us by history and here nationalism is the ruling idea. Old nations are grateful to the nationalist spirit which has made them what they are; young nations have a lively appreciation of benefits yet to come with the attainment of mature nationhood.

Let us turn to the other side of the picture. A world of independent nations is an uneasy world of war, waste and want. This was noticed by ministers, kings and emperors centuries ago. The history of modern internationalism goes back to Sully, the French Minister who discussed a European Federation with his master, Henry IV, and with Queen Elizabeth of England His was a grand design to end religious strife (what we would call 'an ideological conflict') and arrange the common defence of a Federated Europe under a council representing the nations of the Continent Kings would renounce territorial ambitions and Europe would be defended by an international force.

Sully has put down in his memoirs an interview he had with the English Queen, who said that the execution of the plan by another means than that of arms would be very desirable, as this had always something odious in it; but she confessed that indeed it would be hardly possible to begin it in any other wise.

This is the central difficulty of the internationalist. How are the nations to be persuaded to shed their antagonisms and to come together? If force is employed to compel nations to unite, the result is an empire and not a free commonwealth of nations. Sully hoped to persuade monarchs to join the Federation; now we have to persuade the masses to constrain their leaders to give up a too parochial patriotism.

In the midst of wars, there were also philosophers from the Abbe de St Pierre to Immanuel Kant, who put on paper fine schemes of international organizations. Perpetual peace was discussed academically by high-souled thinkers who were unable to influence the rulers or the ruled. A brief practical attempt was, however, made by Czar Alexander, who initiated the Holy Alliance of four powers as the guarantor of international security. Very soon the alliance broke up on the question of intervention in Spain, much in the same way as the League of Nations was shaken by Italian and Spanish questions.

Briefly, the Fascist solution of the international problem is a world dominated by the Axis for the greater prosperity of the militarists. The conquered will serve their conquerors and no part of the world will be allowed to escape the yoke. This is a caricature of internationalism, the product of a monstrous national egotism. Socialist internationalism has few chances of converting the world because it does not allow for the genuine and valuable features of nationalism We are left with a democrtic internationalism which this war may promote and strengthen.—*Broadcast from Trichy.*

SERMONS IN STONES

RELICS OF INDIA'S ANCIENT CIVILIZATION

By Miss WAHIDA AZIZ

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BEFORE the discovery of Mahenjodaro and Harappa in the Sind Valley, it was commonly believed that India owed the introduction of stone for architectural purposes to Asoka. The remains of the Buddhist architecture were taken to be the earliest examples, but this proves that there was a civilisation as early as the third millennium B.C., and that the people of India were building with brick and stone long before the coming of Aryans. It is possible that this civilization was swept away by the Aryan invasion but this fact has not been established.

During the pre-Buddhist era wood not stone, was employed for purposes of architecture and stone seems to have been used only for the foundations of buildings, or city walls and gates, bridges and embankments. When we examine the earliest examples of rock-cut temples there is ample evidence that they were based on models more suitable for wood.

The oldest examples of the Buddhist pillars are those which Asoka set up in the 31st year of his reign to bear inscriptions conveying the leading doctrines of the Buddhist religion. The most well-known of these pillars is the one which Firoz Shah Tughluk removed from Topra and set up in his Kotila in Delhi without being aware of the original purpose of the pillar or its inscription.

A fragment of the other was found on the ridge north of Delhi, where it had been set up by Firoz Shah in his hunting lodge and was re-erected in 1867. A complete shaft of one of his pillars was found in Allahabad lying near the Fort and then re-erected with a pedestal designed by Captain Smith. On this pillar, in addition to Asoka's inscription, is one by Samudra Gupta (A.D. 380 to 400) detailing the great deeds of his resign and the glory of his ancestors.

It has also an inscription in Persian to commemorate the accession of Jehangir. A few others exist in the Champaran district and one at Nilgiva in the Nepal Terai, bearing an inscription by Asoka stating that it marked the birthplace of Buddha. A large fragment and a capital were found at Sarnath, bearing only a portion of a Asoka's inscription.

It is assumed that each of the pillars stood in front of some stupa or a similar building but they have now disappeared. Six or seven of these had been traced in Sanchi and an equal number at Amaravati. At the latter place these laths are frequently represented both inside and outside the rails. At Karle one pillar still stands in front of the great cave surmounted by four lions, while two others are found right in front of the great cave at Kanheri. These are but examples of the time that contributed not a little to India's cultual development as a whole.

WHAT THEY SAY?

In these messages to his people and to posterity, Asoka gave an account of his

administration and of the public works he had done. He also made them the vehicle by which he taught the precepts of the Buddha. The practice of carving Buddhist sentiments in this manner on conspicuous objects was afterwards to receive a very wide extension, as is still visible in Tibet, in Central Asia, in China, and throughout the Buddhist world In all, he issued as many as "sixteen missives, of which fourteen are found engraved in one corpus," in places as far distant as the extremities of the empire—at Girnar in Kathiawar, at Mansehra and Shahbazgarhi in the North-Western Frontier Province, and twelve of the same at Dhauli and Jaugada in Orissa

A careful translation of the one at Kotila has become possible through the discovery of the method of writing and runs thus.—

Thus spake King Devanampia Piyadasi:—In the 27th year of my appointment, I have caused this religious edict to be published in writing. I acknowledge and confess the faults that have been cherished in my heart. From the love of virtue, by the side of which all other things are *as sins*, from the strict scrutiny of sin and from fervent desire to be sold of sin, by the fear of sin and by very enormity of sin; by these may my eyes be strengthened and confirmed (in rectitude).

The sight of religion, and *the love of religion, of* their own accord increase and will ever increase: and my people, whether of the laity (grihast) or of the priesthood (ascetics), all mortal beings, are knit together thereby, and prescribe to themselves the same path: and, above all, having obtained the mastery over their passions, they become supremely wise. For this is indeed true wisdom: it is upheld and bound by religion—religion which bestows pleasure.

The *second* edict which praises good-work in religion runs thus:—

Thus spake King *Piyadasi*:—*In religion is the* chief excellence; but religion consists in good work; in the non omission of many acts; mercy and charity, purity and chastity; these are to me the anointment of consecration Towards the poor and the afflicted, towards bipeds and quadrupeds, towards the fowls of the air and things that *move in the water, manifold have been the* benevolent acts performed by me. Out of consideration for things inanimate even many excellent things have been done by me. To this purpose is the present edict promulgated; let all pay *attention to it, and let it endure for ages to* come: and he who acts in conformity thereto the same shall attain eternal happiness.

A translation of the famous Sanchi Pillar *Edict is*:—

The Samgha of monks and of nuns has been made whole and entire, my sons and grandsons (continuing as long as the sun and moon endure).

Whosoever breaks the Samgha, be he a monk or a nun, *shall be clad in white raiment and* compelled to live in what is not a residence of the mendicants. For my desire is—what is it? that the Samgha may remain whole and entire and may be of long duration.

Asoka's great claim to be remembered by posterity lies in his enthusiastic and successful missionary enterprise. This it is which makes his reign an epoch, not only in the history of India, but in that of the world

CAVE TEMPLES

The cave temples of India also throw much light and contain several of these sermons which possess Code of Morals. In cave No. 10 at Ajanta, there is an *inscription in front of the great arch* to the right side in Maurya characters of the first half of the second century before Christ. There is an inscription which records the excavation *of the cave by a* monk known by the name of Buddhabhadra

who was probably the head of the sect It also contains a sermon urging his fol lowers for action in propagating the religion

Similar inscriptions are found in the caves at Rajgir in Behar, once the capital of India which are of much historical interest Of the whole group the one named 'Lomas Rishi' is the best known because of certain valuable inscriptions it contains

In Orissa, on the Khandagiri and Udaigiri hills twenty miles from Cuttack and five miles from Bhubaneswar there is another group of ancient caves situated in the midst of rather picturesque surroundings The two hills are honeycombed by cells and caves where Buddhist and Jaina hermits lived These caves have also inscriptions which show how they lived and to which religious orders they belonged

The Bagh caves near Gwalior, though simpler in design contain many pillars on which sermons are carved A distinctive feature of these viharas is that in the sanctuaries they have a dagoba instead of an image of Buddha

The Brahmanical caves of Elephanta have similar stones sculptured to give a lesson of the faith of the time The three heads of Trimurti represent the Hindu trinity—Brahma, the Creator, Vishnu the Preserver, and Siva the Destroyer The calm and serene face in the centre represents the Creator it seems as if nothing could ruffle the dignity of this countenance On its right is the profile of the Preserver, while the face of the Destroyer on the left is distorted with fury The smile on the rage distorted face of the Destroyer is neither a smile of victory nor that of jubilation but rather the smile of a steadfast spirit who, faced with cruel and endless controversy, has as it were, seized the serpent the symbol of *evil and confronted it in full consciousness* of his spiritual greatness The history of these and many other caves is fairly continuous as they are rich in authentic inscriptions—true sermons in stones

RAILINGS AND GATEWAYS

Not only the caves and temples have stone inscriptions carved or inscribed on them, even the railings and gateways have them too The Bharut, Sanchi and Bodh Gaya railings are most famous for their early sculptural remains and inscriptions in the post Maurya and pre Kusan periods

Nearly all the bas reliefs on the Bharut rails are inscribed not only with the names of the principal characters but they also give the title of the 'jataka or *legend* found in the books now current in Buddhist countries One of the Bharut inscriptions relates the story of the birth, while other describes the doctrines of the religion The reliefs on the great gateway at Sanchi are also marvels of story telling in decorative composition

Though of much later date, the rails of Amravati are perhaps the last example of this kind, having well nigh reached perfec tion in artistic merit The style is an exquisite blending of Indian and Gandharan modes, but definitely with a stronger classical influence than anything of its kind found in India They also bear a few inscriptions but they have not yet been deciphered

Inscriptions and sermons are a special feature of the Moghal architecture in India. Nearly every building, place of worship and tombs have them in Arabic or Persian characters, either in the form of a 'tughra' or calligraphy Both the Kufic and Nastalik scripts were in use during Akbar's time, the most renowned master being Mohammed Hussain of Kashmir who acquired the name of 'Zarrin-Kalam' or Gold Pen.

Few visitors to Agra are aware of the existence of a chapel known as Akbar's Church, though it is one of the oldest Christian places of worship in Northern India. It contains many inscriptions which are a faithful record of the first Jesuit Missions to the Court of Akbar, and give authentic accounts of how they were invited and when the church was constructed. Many quotations from Bible ending with the following are inscribed on a big marble slab put up in front of it. 'I. H. S.—Anno Mdcclxix.'

It also contains the remains of the notorious Walter Reinhardt, better known as General Sumroo, the husband of the famous Begum Sumroo of Sardhana. The following inscription is found on it:—'Sumptibus. D. Walteri Reinhardt Cure B. P. F. X. W.—S. J.'

Attached to the church is a small cemetery in which some of the tombs are perhaps older than the church itself and contain many stones bearing inscriptions. In the same way, many other churches and temples, mosques and minarets, have sermons in stones in different forms, and it is difficult to deal within the narrow compass of this article, exhaustively or to give the minute details of the examples cited.

To a student of history and to a religious teacher and reformer, a tour of these caves, with their beautiful, and in their own way, unsurpassable, sculptures, carvings, and inscriptions, will provide not only an idea of India's cultural development as a whole, but with one of the most intelligent and interesting diversions he can think of.

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PALECI'S TORPEDO

THE STORY OF A BRITISH LAD S SACRIFICE

By Mr F W CORBETT

A TERRIFIC explosion rent the air Professor Paleci put down his pipe, and ran towards his laboratory

"What's up, Hughie?' he asked anxiously of his step-son, who came running from the opposite direction

The lad pointed to the laboratory, and ran towards it, closely followed by his step father

The whole place was a tangled mass of ruins Test tubes bottles, scales tables, and all the other paraphernalia of a labor atory lay smashed up, and scattered about in disorder The roof was blown clean off, and the bare walls were full of cracks The smell of burning chemicals filled the air, and as they looked on, the broken furniture burst into flames in half a dozen different places

"An awful mess," said Hughie, looking up, "I wonder how it happened '

"I think that's easily explained," answered the Professor, after a while, 'you know those experiments we were conducting?"

"Yes"

"Well, I had the mixture for the synthetic camphor on the table there, and just below was the jar full of chemicals we had mixed this morning for that other experiment

"Yes"

"Well, by some accident one mixture must have fallen into the other I remember now, that both contained chemicals that would explode on contact '

"Pity"

"No, it's not a pity," returned the Professor, grasping his short beard," we are on the eve of a very important discovery, if such a small quantity of those chemicals could destroy this room, we have within our grasp the secret of an explosive of a very high order which will enable us to make the most terrific bombs and torpedoes We must continue our experiments'

The work of rebuilding the wrecked laboratory was immediately taken in hand Fresh plant and apparatus and everything to help the Professor in his researches were ordered, and before the expiry of a month the new laboratory was in full working order

A strange man was Professor Paleci Silent, and often moody, he had established a reputation as a scientist early in life, and had many outstanding discoveries to his credit

His labours often took him to England, where he met, and had married about seven years previously, a young English woman, the widow of a promising young naval officer

Their married life was not a very pleasant one The Professor spent most of his time with his experiments and his young wife, cut off from all contact with her English friends, led a lonely life in their comfortable home in one of the remoter parts of Sicily, while her growing son was deprived of his education, that he may be of help to the Professor in his experiments -

The Professor now worked harder than ever Carefully thinking out the chemicals he had used in the previous experiments, he gradually combined them in proportions to give the best explosive effect on contact, and soon, the secret of a most deadly explosive was in his possession

Paulo Paleci, a sprightly young Naval Officer of about twenty five, was surprised when he received an invitation from his taciturn uncle a few days later, to visit him on his lonely estate Badly needing a holiday he accepted, and the Professor was pleased to see him at his door step one morning

"Oh, good morning, Paulo, glad you've come," he beamed, as he looked up from among an array of test tubes, "wanted to see you badly".

"I guessed it was some such thing," sneered the young man as he sank into a chair.

"Oh, that will do Paulo, let's talk of something else," interrupted the Professor with a gesture of impatience, "Business for instance. I have been reading in the papers about that new submarine of yours."

"Ah, I see," laughed the young man, "It's getting on first rate, thanks"

"Tell us all about it"

"That's a State secret."

"Now go on, Paulo, I am no spy; you see, I want to help you For instance, I read that our Navy Department does not place much value on it, as it is too small to carry the usual torpedo, and a torpedo small enough to suit it is of not much use as an offensive weapon."

"Yes, returned Paulo evasively.

"Now, supposing I were to tell you that I have the secret of a new explosive that will make a torpedo small enough to suit your submarine, but capable of much greater execution than any existing torpedo?" and he eyed his nephew curiously.

"Can you, uncle?" exclaimed Paulo, enthusiastically," tell me more about it, please do."

"First tell me more about your submarine."

The young man hesitated.

"Come on, I "am no spy," encouraged the uncle.

"Well, my submarine is perfect. Can do thirty to forty knots an hour, can move and manœuvre about in any direction, can rise and sink like a fish in the water, and has an extremely tiny periscope which makes its detection even at close quarter well nigh impossible."

"What's the trouble about it, then?"

"The only trouble is that it is to small; it can only accommodate four, an cannot carry the present torpedo. W have been trying to build it larger, bu find that we cannot at the same tim retain the various advantages of the smalle type So there it lies, a splendid vessel but so far, useless as an offensiv weapon."

"My new explosive can remedy that Paulo; I think that with it we can mak a torpedo tiny enough to fit your vesse but sufficiently powerful to blow up th biggest battleship afloat"

The young man sprang out of his chair.

"Indeed, tell us more about it, uncle," he exclaimed with delight, "and let me see some of the stuff if you have it handy."

The Professor briefly explained the secret of his discovery, and, going to a shelf produced two large glass bottles.

"These," he said, "contain only about twenty fluid ounces each, but that is enough to blow up this room, and to destroy everything in it."

"Let's try some of it, uncle," said Paulo, as he danced round the room in delight.

Emptying some of the contents of the two bottles into separate glass containers, uncle and nephew walked down the extensive and thickly wooded grounds in which the house stood. At its northern extremity was a little stream with high banks which separated it from the neighbouring estate. Several huge detached boulders lay scattered about the stream, and, after a little search they selected a suitable boulder to try the explosive on. In half an hour the two chemicals were arranged one above the other beneath the boulder, with an ingenious arrangement by means of which they could be made to unite by pulling a cord from fully five hundred yards away.

The explosion that followed was terrific. A huge slice of the boulder was blown clean off, and hurled against a tree about thirty yards away, bringing it down.

Fragments were scattered all over, and, after a few minutes little lurid tongues of flame burst out in a dozen different places, and burned fiercely for over a quarter of an hour

'That's grand!" exclaimed Paulo, with delight, "we must see if we cannot use this explosive to make a torpedo to suit my submarine We can blow up every British battleship in a few days"

A week later, the Rome papers reported the tragic disappearance of Paulo Paceli, the well known young Naval Architect

'The missing young man," ran the 'report, left the works last morning on a trial trip in his new submarine and has not returned It is feared that he has met with some mishap"

Meanwhile, things were humming at the Professor's lonely estate in Sicily Anxious to conduct his experiments in secrecy Paulo had managed to travel in his tiny vessel, unobserved, and without mishap to the estate, where it was carefully berthed in the little stream, and hidden among the trees

A more elaborate laboratory, and a factory were soon set up, skilled workmen secretly engaged, and a series of exhaustive experiments conducted, but still success seemed as far off as ever Nothing daunted, uncle and nephew, ably assisted by young Hugh Jenkins, continued their experiments, till at last, they had the satisfaction of handling one fine morning, a small and innocent looking missile, which perfectly suited their requirements

The new torpedo was only four and a half feet long, with a diameter of just five inches, as against a length of sixteen feet, and a diameter of about fourteen inches in the smallest type of torpedo hitherto in use It consisted of a light cigar shaped steel casing, which was fitted tightly over a glass tube of similar shape, divided by a glass partition in the centre, into two compartments, each of which contained the component parts of the new explosive

The fore part of the missile had a blunt nose, with a sharp steel pin or "striker" in the centre, which, on striking against anything hard, crashed against the glass partition, smashing it, and causing the liquids to combine and explode with terrific effect

It was fitted with the latest type of gyroscopic rudders, which made it absolutely accurate at a range of two to three miles, one set of rudders steering it on its course, and the other keeping it at its correct depth in the water.

It required only forty pounds of the new explosive, as against two hundred to two hundred and fifty pounds carried by the ordinary torpedo, and its total weight was only about two hundred pounds, whereas the ordinary torpedo weighed nearly one thousand five hundred pounds Nevertheless, it was so deadly in effect, that it could tear a huge hole in the side of the most heavily armoured warship, and sink it almost instantaneously

Successive trials more than proved its effectiveness and accuracy, as huge blocks of granite arranged at the mouth of the river to represent ships, were reduced to atoms by being fired at from the submerged vessel at a range of over two miles

"Let Mussolini declare war now," boasted Paulo one morning to his uncle, as they sped under the waters of the Mediterranean in their now perfected little submarine, fitted with a dozen of the new torpedoes, "If we were suddenly drawn into war, we need not worry about the size of our fleet I can, singlehanded and unseen, account for at least a dozen of the best British ships, and then, turn up as from the dead, and present this little wonder to our beloved Duce"

Little did he dream at the time that he was soon to have the opportunity The German invasion of Poland provoked the second world war, and events followed each other with bewildering rapidity The collapse of France tempted the Duce to rashly enter the fray on the side

"Open that door, curse you, or I'll brain you" yelled Paulo, kicking wildly at the door.

"Shut up, you are my prisoners"

Another terrific kick at the door, which reverbrated through the little craft

"Stop that," cried Jenkins, "this vessel is mine as a prize of war, and you'll be damaging her"

Followed a succession of wild kicks at the door, which showed signs of collapsing

"Stop that, or I'll blow this vessel up; do you understand", yelled the lad above the din

"You dare not" roared the Professor, and another series of violent kicks at the door, to the accompaniment of wild threats nearly burst it asunder

"You don't know British pluck, then," hissed the lad, as he rushed forward, and picking up a huge hammer, struck with all his might at the 'striker" of one of the torpedoes The "striker" drove in an inch or two, but the missile failed to explode. Jenkins swung the hammer over his head to strike another blow, just as Paulo, with another terrific kick, burst the door asunder, and rushed in

"Stop that, you fool," he yelled, seizing a heavy iron rod and rushing at the lad, "You'll blow———"

But it was too late The hammer had already descended with great force on the "striker"

Those on the bridge of the nearest British battleship saw a huge column of water flung into the air at some distance ahead of them, and fancied that they saw something resembling a small submarine thrown bodily into the air, where it burst into fragments

And, as they watched in surprise, the waters seemed to burst into flames all over the spot,———flames which burnt with a terrible intensity, and destroyed for ever the secret of one of the most diabolical explosives man had ever invented, and along with it, the mangled remains of four mortals, two of whom died that they may save our Navy.

GREATNESS OF SANSKRIT LANGUAGE

BY RAO SAHIB C HAYAVADANA RAO

SANSKRIT LITERATURE AND THE WEST

A GREAT Anglo Sanskrit scholar has described Sanskrit literature as representing "an independent civilization entirely different from that of the West" This, however, is a remark which is only partially true Sanskrit literature enshrines, it is true, a civilization which is not only ancient but also independent in its origin but it is not so "different" from the Western because the Western has been largely modified by it The constant intercourse that has existed between the East and the West, despite the many difficulties that have militated against its continuity through the ages, has enabled Sanskrit thought to influence the West Hebrew contact with India goes back to the 9th century B C The Iranians, after long separation, got into touch once again with their elder brothers of India, between the 6th and 4th century B C under the Achæmenid dynasty Cyrus I actually ruled over the Gandharas and the Asvakas The old Iranian inscriptions of Bahistan and Persepolis show Darius Hystapis ruling over not only Gandhara but also as far as the Indus The army of Xerxes, who fought against Greece in 480 B C was actually made up partly of Indian regiments, drawn from Gandhara and the Indus Herodotus gives us a fascinating picture of their dress and equipment Alexander's invasion in 327 B C opened up a veritable

vista to the then Western world. The Greeks met at Takshasila—modern Taxilla—for the first time Brahman Yogis, or "the wise men of the Indians", as they called them; and were astonished at their asceticism and their strange doctrines How Chandragupta cast off the Greeks and founded a new dynasty, the Mauryan and how this dynasty, under his son and successor, Asoka, became famous and lasted for nearly a century and a half (315 to 178 B C) and how it opened the way to greater intercourse between India and the outer world beyond, both in the rest of Asia and Europe, are matters of history. The Græco-Bactrian and Scythian (Saka) princes of North-Western India continued the tradition down to 20 B C. after nearly two centuries of persistence in and about that region The Gupta kings of Northern India, a national dynasty, reunited India under one rule, and kept up the connection with the rest of Asia and probably beyond it. It will be remembered that the famous Chinese pilgrim Hiouen Thsang visited India during the reign of Harshavardhana of Kanuj of this dynasty, about the beginning of the 7th century A D. The Muslims were attracted to India and their first appearance about 1000 A D. meant a new chapter in the history of that wider intercourse of India with the outer world which has meant so much for it.

This wider intercourse has, of course, led to mutual influence extending over many centuries while the idea that the Sanskrit drama was modelled on that of the Greek, as was once suggested by Weber, has now, few left to support it It is of interest to note that Goeth's prelude to his *Faust* is modelled on that of Kalidasa's *Sakuntala* In the domain of fables and fairy tales, the *Panchatantra* has had a wide vogue in Europe, through translations of translations, the first being made by an Iranian physician into Pehlevi about the middle of the 6th century A D. This was done with Syriac, in about 570 A D, and into Arabic, about 760 A D. The Arabic version became the source for many others and these shaped largely the literature of the middle ages in Europe Buddhist stories have obtained a similar currency in Europe, particularly that of *Barlaam and Josaphat*, which dates back to a Greek version of the 8th century A.D. Josaphat is Buddha himself in a new guise. Arabs, again, introduced the Hindu Chess into Europe about 1100 A D. and it has left its marks on mediæval poetry, on the idioms of European languages, on the science of arithmetic in the calculation of progressions with the Chess board, and even on heraldry. Beyond all, this game helped millions of people in Europe during the middle ages to spend their idle hours innocently. In the philosophical field, Hindu Philosophy has had considerable influence on the West. It is to-day admitted that there is "at least the historical possibility of the Greeks having been influenced by Indian thought through Persia." Some sober writers have admitted the possibility of Pythagorus, if he did not visit India might "quite well have met Indians in Persia." As almost all the doctrines ascribed to him were known in India in the 6th century B C, we can realize what this should have meant, by way of Indian influence so early at that on Europe. There are, likewise, indications of Neo-Platonist philosophy having been influenced by the Sankhya system which flourished in the 1st century A D. The lively intercourse that existed then between Alexandria and India should have contributed to this result. Both Plotinus (204 269 A D) and Porphyry (232 304 A D) manifestly bear marks of Sankya and Buddhist thought on them. The influence of Indian philosophy on Christian Gnosticism (2nd and 3rd century A.D.) is to-day admitted to be absolutely "undoubted." The whole of this philosophy seems based on the Sankhya doctrines. Bardesanes, perhaps the best known Gnostic of the Syrian school, obtained his information about India from Indian philosophers His theory of a subtle ethereal body is nothing more than the *linga-sarira* of the Sankhya system. The whole of the Gnostic cosmogony is based

on that of the Buddhists In modern times, we know what Schopenhauer and Hartman owe to Indian philosophy Schopenhauer's famous utterance that the *Upanishads* had been the solace of his life and that they would be the solace of his death may be recalled with some relevance when we are talking of Indian influence on Western thought

In the domain of what is to day called comprehensively European science, Sanskritic influence has had equally great vogue The invention of the numerical figures and the decimal system of reckoning dependent on those figures, the world owes to India What these have meant to science and the advance of civilization, it is difficult to say The development of algebra received special attention at the hands of the Sanskrit astronomer Arya Bhatta (born 476 A D) and his successors Arya Bhatta carried it beyond the points attained by Greeks The Arabs, a great nation of adeventurers and a nation too who early attained maturity, acquired during the 8th and 9th centuries a knowledge of arithmetic and algebra from India and spread it westwards among the European nations To the Arabs, the West owes no little for its civilization of to-day. Similarly in geometry, the *Yajurvedi*, the *Brahmanas* and the *Sulva Sutras* evidence knowledge which is purely Sanskritic in character, and much anterior to the Alexandrian geometry of Hero, which dates back to the first quarter of the 3rd century B C. In astronomy, too, the Arabs translated or adapted, in the 8th and 9th centuries A D, the writings of *Arya Bhatta, whom they called Arjehir*, and Brahma Gupta (whose work *Akargana* they turned into *Arkand*) and carried them westward The Arabs called the *Siddhantas* of the Sanskritists *Sind Hind* When Latin translations of Arabic works on astronomy—based on the Sanskrit work—began to appear in Europe, many Sanskrit terms began to appear in them When we remember that the Khalifs of Baghdad (7th century A D), renowned for their catholicity and culture, summoned to their courts repeatedly Indian astronomers, there can be no surprise at the westward influence of Sanskrit nations Similarly, in medicine The Khalifs of Baghdad, under whose influence Muslim civilization received its final development, during the 7th and 8th century A D, caused several Sanskrit works on medicine to be translated Among these were those of Charaka and Susruta, perhaps, the most valuable in the whole series of medical books known to Sanskrit, which were done into Arabic at the close of 8th century A D Charaka was the official physician during his time (1st century A D) to King Kanishka, the great patron of Buddhism Susruta probably wrote about the 4th century A D Al Razi, the most celebrated of the Arabic physicians who died in 932 A D quotes both Sanskrit physicians and he in his turn became the chief authority until as late as the 17th century A D of Western European physicians Similarly, Avicenna *(Ibn Sina)* the most illustrious of the Arabian physicians, surnamed the prince of physicians, a man of immense learning and extensive practice in his art during his days (980—1037), quotes Charaka approvingly His work, known as the *Canon of Medicine*, was supreme in medical science in the West for centuries So also does Serapion *(Ibn Sarafyun)*, another well known Arabian physician European physicians must have thought very highly of Charaka—as quoted in the Arabic works—for they mention him repeatedly in their Latin translations of the Arabic writers just mentioned Quite late, in the last century, European surgery borrowed the operation of Rhinoplastry, or the formation of artificial noses, from India, where Englishmen first became acquainted with it

The greatness of a language consists in its literature, in the ideals which that literature inspires and the high culture which it gives birth to Judged from this standard, Sanskrit has much to its credit Its literature is vast, while the range of that literature is comprehensive to a degree. The Vedic and the classical

periods carry us over something like three thousand years. At the very threshold of Sanskrit literature stands the *Vedas*, which contain lyrical poetry of the most refined type. Those who composed it show great skill in the handling of language and metre That presupposes the cultivation of that language for centuries backwards, how many centuries backwards we are wholly unable yet to fix It is possible such cultivation may go back to another thousand years However that may be, a language which has such an antiquity to its credit, is entitled to rank as one of the greatest amongst the world's many languages Judged from its content, it is equally great, the *Vedas*, the *Brahmanas*, the *Aranyakas* and the *Upanishads*, the *Vedangas*, the *Sutras* under the Vedic phase make an excellent of ground work. Under the classical period, fall a variety of great works The great national epics of the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*, the more modern epics and romances (Kavyas and Mahakavyas, such as the *Buddhacharita, Raghuvamsa, Kumarasambhava*, etc.), the dramas associated with the great names of Bhasa, Sudraka, Kalidasa, Sri Harshadeva, Bhavabhuti, Bhatta Narayana, Visakhadatta, Krishna Misra and a whole host of others come under this head. Later lyrical, descriptive and didactic poetry also come under this head. Included in this class are works like Sridhara Dasa's *Sadukti Karnamrita*, of the 13th century which is a collection of good sayings described as "ear-ambrosia" It is remarkable because it collects together the verses of 446 different writers Another of this type is *Sarangadhara Paddhati*, of the 14th century, which contains 6,000 verses culled from 264 different writers and works. Vallabhadeva's *Subhashitavali* is another such anthology, consisting of 3,500 verses ascribed to some 350 poets. A splendid specimen of a longer poem, largely descriptive in character, is Kalidasa's *Meghaduta*, "Cloud Messenger", which describes the various places and objects over which the messenger, a cloud, will have to sail in an airy voyage. It has had a number of successful imitations. Among religious lyrics, Sankaracharya's *Ananda-lahari* easily stands first. It is a "wave of joy", a hymn of 103 stanzas in praise of the Goddess Parvati. The *Surya Sataka* of Mayura, a contemporary of Bana (7th century deserves mention in this connection). The *Khanda Prasasti* describes the *avatars* of Vishnu, while Bana's *Chandrika Stotra*, praises Siva's consort Jayadeva's beautiful poem *Gita Govinda* is in praise of *Sri Krishna*. It has had a Kannada imitation in a contemporary of Chikka Devaraja of Mysore. In didactic poetry, Sanskrit has been famous It has been the chief vehicle for inculcating the truths of the *Nitisastra* This science of ethics was specially intended for inculcating right conduct in the art of Government. First among these is the *Rajanitisamuchchchaya* attributed to Chanakya, the minister of Chandragupta. Another old collection is the *Kamadakiya Niti Sastra*, ascribed to Kamandiki, a disciple of Chanakya Part of Bhartrihari's sententious couplets relate to *Niti* and are among the best he wrote. The *Niti Pradipa* of Vetala Bhatta is another. All these deal with politics and diplomacy in a manner which shows both knowledge and skill in the difficult art of practical politics. Nor can we ignore the famous tales of *Panchatantra*, or five books of which several resenscions exist.

This brief sketch ought to suffice to show in what the greatness of Sanskrit as a literary language and as the language of Indian culture has been capable of and why we should make the most of it, not only for our own benefit but also for the cultural advance of the world.

RAJAJI-JINNAH CORRESPONDENCE

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AT last the draft of the "basis for the terms of settlement between the Indian National Congress and the All India Muslim League", formulated by Rajaji, approved by Gandhiji and presented to Mr. Jinnah as their "joint contribution to the solution of the communal problem" has been published. This attempt on the part of Mr. Rajagopalachari to bring about the settlement threatens to come to nought on account of Mr. Jinnah's refusal to personally take the responsibility of "accepting or rejecting" the formula for settlement—a formula too which had been approved by Gandhiji. The terms of the basis of settlement thus approved by Gandhiji are:

(1) Subject to the terms set out below as regards the constitution for Free India, the Muslim League endorses the Indian demand for independence and will co-operate with the Congress in the formation of a Provisional Interim Government for the transitional period

(2) After the termination of the war, a commission shall be appointed for demarcating contiguous districts in the north west and east of India, wherein the Muslim population is in absolute majority. In the areas thus demarcated, a plebiscite of all the inhabitants held on the basis of adult suffrage or other practicable franchise shall ultimately decide the issue of separation from Hindustan If the majority decide in favour of forming a sovereign state separate from Hindustan, such decision shall be given effect to without prejudice to the right of the districts on the border to choose to join either State

(3) It will be open to all parties to advocate their points of view before the plebiscite is held

(4) In the event of separation, mutual agreement shall be entered into for safeguarding defence and commerce and communications and for other essential purposes

(5) Any transfer of population shall only be on an absolute voluntary basis

(6) These terms shall be binding only in case of transfer by Britain of full power and responsibility for the governance of India.

Mr. Rajagopalachari releasing his correspondence with Mr. Jinnah, of which the formula formed a part, in a statement said that he had discussed the formula with Mr. Gandhi in March, 1918, during his 21 days' fast and he had not only approved it then but had authorised him (C R.) to communicate it to Mr. Jinnah.

Mr. Jinnah, while willing to place the formula before the Working Committee of the Muslim League informed Mr. Rajagopalachari that he could not personally take the responsibility of accepting or rejecting it.

Mr. Rajagopalachari, however, thought that it was futile to allow Mr. Jinnah to place the formula before the League Executive if he himself could not wholeheartedly back it, and the negotiations were closed.

The release of the correspondence has naturally given rise to a lot of controversy in the press. The Hindu Mahasabha leaders and a few others have protested against the Congress attempt to appease the League; while others welcomed this new approach to resolve the deadlock.

I regard Rajaji's formula to be consistent with national integrity and, in my opinion, with the spirit of the Congress resolution Under non-violence, national units cannot be forcibly held together,

said Mahatma Gandhi replying to criticisms. "I should be allowed to be the sole interpreter of Satyagraha of my conception which has held the field since 1908", adds the Mahatma, referring to a critic's statement that Gandhiji's action in supporting C. R.'s formula "has dealt the severest blow to satyagraha and the country will drift towards violence and anarchy."

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Replying to his critics, Rajaji said; "If we accept the argument of the Mahasabha,

the result will be undoubtedly continuance of the deadlock and of British rule for all time."

The real question is whether a dependendent status and authoritarian rule are better than a settlement under the scheme proposed If the League and the Congress agree to this or to any other scheme not even the imperialism of British Tories can successfully resist the Indian demand for independence.

"I have used my utmost capacity and patience towards a settlement by private negotiations", said Rajaji plaintively.

It is now 2 years since I started work Even though I had secured Gandhiji's unqualified personal support to the scheme and it conceded all that the Muslim League had demanded or could hope to claim before the bar of world opinion, I found Mr Jinnah unwilling to give his personal support to it

What could I do therefore by way of private negotiations and with whom was I to do it?

For all this pleading, Mr. Jinnah's only reaction was expressed tersely in a press interview: "I have nothing to say at present." It was a convenient pose and an escape from the strain of thinking and making up his mind. Evidently Mr. Jinnah is unable to make up his mind. It was suggested the League Council might take "informal notice" of the C. R formula and Mahatma Gandhi was expected to write to the leader of the League to place the formula before the Working Committee. It is plain that this meaningless insistence on procedure is an index to the temper in which the question is approached on the League's side. That temper was fully evident in Mr. Jinnah's address to the Leaguers; and the League Executive has left the negotiations solely to the discretion of its leader. C. R. now realises that no good can come out of this half hearted and even hostile attitude of the League's President and hence this abrupt termination of the negotiations. For the moment, unless something extraordinary happens, there is little likelihood of the League accepting the formula in the face of Mr. Jinnah's non-chalance on a matter of such weighty import.

If Mr Jinnah does not accept my suggestion or if the powers that be do not, I would consider it most unfortunate. That would show that neither of them wants India to be really free at this juncture and give India a full share in winning the war for freedom and democracy. I live for a cause and if I perish it is for the cause,

declared Mahatma Gandhi, in an informal chat, reiterating his faith in the destiny of a Free India.

Mahatma Gandhi said that it must be the duty of all fair-minded people to break what he called "the diabolical conspiracy to stifle India's aspirations."

C. R. in a statement issued on the 19th pointed out that the breaking off of his personal negotiations with Mr. Jinnah in regard to Congress League settlement did not mean the lapsing of the terms offered for a settlement.

A Congress League settlement is still possible and if public opinion brings sufficient pressure to bear on the League and if there is a desire for ending the Hindu-Muslim deadlock and for emancipating the people of India from a status of subjection, a settlement is not only possible but even probable.

In a subsequent statement to the Orient Press, C. R. defends the procedure adopted by him in regard to the negotiations with Mr. Jinnah. He explains how he obtained Gandhiji's approval of the scheme and why it would be improper for him to submit it to the public while Gandhiji himself was not free. Finally he says that the scheme is by no means withdrawn on the plea of Mr. Jinnah's non-committal attitude.

What has been offered is the maximum that could be offered. In fact the demand in the League resolution of 1940 is completely conceded in the scheme now put before the public. The present provincial boundaries, which is the result of British administrative convenience, must be re adjusted to fit in with *self determination for Muslim* majority areas. When proper boundaries are fixed with due regard to the composition of the inhabitants, it would be wrong to lay the foundation of a new state depriving any part of the population of that region of the right to

vote on a constitutional issue on the ground of their religion This would not be the way to assure minorities of full citizenship rights At the same time it may be noted that the votes of minorities cannot prejudice the League s claim because there will be a preponderent majority of Muslims in the area delimited.

As we go to the press we learn that in deference to Mr Jinnah's wishes Gandhiji has sent a communication to Mr Jinnah officially conveying to him the Rajagopalachari formula for a Congress League settlement But the prospect of a settlement seems to recede with every fresh effort at rapprochement Jinnah s answer as reflected in his address to the League Council at Lahore on July 80 is by no means a friendly gesture It is still as cantankerous as ever

Mr Rajagopalachari s formula he says is already a negation of and intended to torpedo the Muslim League s resol tion of March 1940 and when he says that h s formula concedes all that the Muslim League had ever demanded by its resolution it is tl e grossest travesty First of all where does he f nd any ment on of 'plebiscite of any kind in that resolution? Then why th s ridiculous proposal of a pleb scite district wise?

Mr Jinnah added

Tl e procedure and method adopted is hardly conducive to friendly negot ations and the form is pure d ctation as it is not open to any mod fica tion This is not calculated to lead to fruitful results or a solution and settlement of the problem which concerns the dest ny of a nation of hundred n illions of Muslims and their posterity As regards the mer ts of the proposal Mr Gandhi is offering a sha low and a husk of Pakistan ma med mutilated and moth eaten and thus is trying to pass off as having met our Pakistaa scheme and Mu lim demand

The rest of the speech is a fanatic outburst of ill mannered gibes and petulent recrimi nations This is not a hopeful atmosphere in which to conduct any negotiation for settlement The fear is widely expressed that Mr Jinnah will simply utilise Gandhiji s acceptance of the principle of Pakistan as the starting point for fresh demands Whatever it may be Gandhiji is determined to secure Mr Jinnah s co operation in pressing the demand for independence

There is yet the last chance of some settlement in Mr Jinnah's acceptance of Gandhiji s offer to meet him

Gandhiji wrote from 'Dilkush, Panchgani on July 17 as follows

Brother Jinnah

There was a day when I could induce you to speak in the mother tongue To day, I take courage to write to you in the same language I had invited you to meet me while I was in jail I have not written to you since my release But to day my heart says that I should write to you We will meet whenever you choose Don t regard me as the enemy of Islam or of the Muslims of this country I am the friend and servant of not only yourself but of the whole world Do not disappoint me

I am enclosing herewith a translation of th s letter in Urdu

The League President replied as follows from H B Queen Elizabeth Srinagar on July 24

Dear Mr Gandhi

I received your letter dated 17, here on the July 22 and I thank you for it

I shall be glad to receive you at my house in Bombay on my return which will probably be about the m ddle of August By that time I hope that you will have recuperated your health fully and will be returning to Bombay I would like to say noth ng more till we meet

I am very pleased to read in the Press that you are making very good progress and I hope that you will soon be all right

In spite of all set backs the Mahatma's optimism does not seem to have deserted him He is determined to press the Rajaji formula with renewed faith in its potency— a contribution from two life servants of the nation of the communal tangle He is by no means dismayed even by the Government s rejec tion of his offer In a way the rejection, of the political formula he says

enables all parties to concentrate the r attention on communal settlement Wh lst I had said and repeat that the presence of a third party effec tively prevents a solution it was never meant to convey that I would make no attempt at an honourable solution even while the third party continued to dom nate this land of ours No one will be more pleased than I if we can pull through a solut on which sat sfies all parties

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

India Debate in Parliament

THE long-awaited India debate in both Houses of Parliament has just concluded. However much public opinion in India and a considerable section of the intelligentia in England may be anxious to end the deadlock in this country, the authorities in England, judging from the trend of the debate, do not seem to care in the least for any sort of settlement of the Indian question. Indeed, the deadlock in India seems to suit them very well. Neither the urgency of war interests nor the insistent demands of the Indian people seem to have had the least influence in effecting any change in the mentality of the reactionary elements at home. In the light of Government's intransigence as evidenced by the speeches of the Under-Secretary of State in the House of Lords and of the Secretary of State in the Commons, it is clear the stalemate is bound to continue indefinitely. That is to say, conditions are bound to deteriorate if left to drift for themselves.

The Viceroy asked for constructive suggestions from Mr. Gandhi and the Mahatma, forgetting old scores, has magnanimously responded by taking up the thread of negotiations since the failure of the Cripps mission. He lost no time in putting forward his new scheme for a national government, and in his Gelder interview made it clear that the "Quit India" no less than the civil disobedience order was a thing of the past and can no more be revived. On another front, he bravely sponsored Rajagopalachari's formula for a deal with the Muslims. What more do they want of him? And yet Lord Munster in the House of Lords indicts Mr. Gandhi for "still clinging to precisely that claim which wrecked the Cripps-mission" while to Mr. Amery "the basis of Mr. Gandhi's proposals do not afford even a starting point for profitable discussion with the Viceroy."

No wonder that Gandhiji is profoundly disappointed. Referring to his offer, and the Lords' debate he says:

> It is the most constructive suggestion that I could conceive of If it is not accepted even as a basis for a friendly discussion and for permission to be given to see the members of the Congress Working Committee, who alone can speak with authority, I must reluctantly come to the conclusion that the British Government do not want a fair solution of what I consider is a deadlock, but what they may not consider as such.
>
> How I wish that the bogey of communal differences had not been raised in the debate! I have contended, as I contend even now, that differences there must be so long as there is a ruling third party to exploit them. I have spoken what I feel to be the truth. The occasion is too serious for me to hide it.

If there was any hope that the Commons debate would prove less reactionary, Mr. Amery's speech set all doubts at rest, by its thoroughly unhelpful attitude. The S. of S. was content to repeat his usual slogan. Gandhiji is naturally "pained and amazed" and he expressed himself frankly disappointed.

> The consensus of opinion in the House of Commons, therefore, is for me a terrible pointer It confirms me, in my opinion, that the 'Quit India' resolution was no hasty cry, conceived in anger. To put the same in parliamentary language, it demands that India must be now governed by Indians chosen by her own people—not a coterie but the whole mass of the people without distinction of race, creed or colour It is unfortunate that the House of Commons has once more missed the opportunity of making the issue between the Allied powers and the Axis powers a real issue of Democracy *versus* Autocracy, or the exploitation of classes or nations by a class or a nation armed to the teeth. My offer presented that issue in the clearest possible language that I could command. It was presented on behalf of all the exploited nations and races of the earth It is a great pity that the Lords and the Commons have turned down my offer The Allies will have their victory, but the exploited races will not feel the glow of it. They will know that the seeds of another and deadlier war will be sown by that very victor I ask myself the question, "Must rivers of blood flow for such an empty victory?"

The British Press on Gandhiji's Offer

The Indian question has returned to the forefront of press and public discussion in Britain Once again Gandhiji has given a dynamic lead which is becoming irresistible

"Whatever comes out of Mr Gandhi's generous offer to the Muslim League states the *New Statesman and Nation* it makes at length a new departure in India for which everyone has been waiting since the failure of the Cripps mission .

' It removes the main stumbling block in the way of Hindu Muslim agreement . . Now is the time for Lord Wavell and Mr Amery to be helpful , says the *News Chronicle*

In the opinion of the *Scotsman* Mahatma Ganahi is coming nearer to accepting the Cripps proposals

Only the *Times* struck a discordant note taking its clue from its Delhi correspondent

But the *Daily Worker* condemns Mr Amery for his churlish indifference towards every move to end the Indian deadlock '

When Mr Gandhi declares that 1944 is not 1942 that he has no intention of offering civil disobedience today and does not seek to control military affairs for the National Government recognises that military needs must be given precedence and that if he met the Viceroy he would aid and not hinder the war effort then Mr Gandhi the pacifist is making a tremendous contribution for a settlement

There are not many western statesmen who would be willing thus to publicly correct their views or revise their policy with the object of conciliation What more can the Government demand ?

Reynolds News goes a step further Mr H E Brailsford writing in its columns points out that if Mr Gandhi makes up his mind to act he does it boldly.

Few men in this too emotional world would be capable of a change of front so realistic and rational It is hard to feel sure that Mr Jinnah wants a settlement of any kind So far he has declined to show his hand In effect he has rejected Gandhiji's offer It will be deplorable and discreditable to British statesmanship if the matter does end here Britain cannot go on for ever using the extremism of the Muslim League as an excuse for postponing Indian settlement

The Horniman Jubilee

Ever since he took charge of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta's *Bombay Chronicle*, Mr Horniman has been a great figure and a great force in Indian journalism It is now some years since he started his present daily—the *Bombay Sentinel*. Both have flourished under the direction of its talented editor There have been other great editors, Indian and Anglo Indian in this country who have shed lustre on their calling But the special distinction of Mr Horniman is that he trained a group of journalists who have upheld the bright Horniman tradition in Indian journalism Mr Brelvi of the *Chronicle* the late Raghavan Pothan Joseph of the *Daun* and a host of others took their first lessons in journalism under Mr Horniman And then Mr Horniman has proved himself more Indian in his outlook than many an Indian editor No wonder that all the leading Journalists of India, irrespective of their political predilections, have joined in homage to the grand old man of the Press in India An influential committee of journalists and leading men of Bombay with Sir Chimanlal Setalvad as Chairman is organising a fitting celebration on the occasion of his golden jubilee

Muslims and Rajaji's Formula

It has been shown that the Rajaji formula frankly concedes all that Mr Jinnah has asked for And yet Mr Jinnah is reluctant to endorse it The League members out of deference to their leader, have kept their individual views to themselves But the bulk of Muslim opinion, including that of the Azads Ahars and Momins is distinctly favourable to the settlement

Soviet Interest in India

It is reported from Moscow that the Soviet Press is taking great interest in the Indian situation For instance, all leading Soviet papers reprinted the United States report saying that President Roosevelt intends to discuss the Indian question with Mr Churchill and quoting the President's Envoy as suggesting that the Atlantic Charter should be applied to India

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

The Attempt on Hitler's Life

NEWS from the battlefronts of Europe and the Far East has almost been obscured by the dramatic events in Germany and Japan. the attempted assassination of Hitler and the resignation of the Tojo Cabinet.

The attempt on Hitler was made by the use of high explosives on July 20. Several members of his entourage were wounded. Hitler himself received slight bruises and a concussion but no injuries. This was the third attempt on his life, he said, in a broadcast talk soon after the incident.

> For the third time an attempt on my life has been planned and carried out. If I speak to you, to-day, it is first, in order that you should hear my voice and that you should know that I myself am unhurt and well Secondly, in order that you should know about a crime unparalleled in German history A very small clique of ambitious irresponsible and at the same time senseless and criminally stupid officers had formed a plot to eliminate me and with me the staff of the German Wehrmacht Command.

Retribution was swift. The plotters were immediately arrested and shot. Hitler has used the occasion to strengthen his hold on the people. The revolt in the German army was also dealt with ruthlessly.

Though the crisis has for the moment been averted, the army revolt in East Prussia and the resignation of the Tojo Cabinet are the first tangible signs of the stress to which the two Axis countries are being subjected by the Allied offensives. They show that within both Germany and Japan, despite the iron hand of the totalitarian authorities, there are elements which clearly recognise the writing on the wall.

Mr. Churchill on the War

Mr. Churchill in his war report to Parliament, on August 2, declared, "I am increasingly led to feel that the interval between the defeat of Hitler and the defeat of Japan will be shorter, and perhaps much shorter than I at one time supposed."

The Liberation of France

During his recent visit to the liberated area in Normandy, Prime Minister Churchill had several conferences with General Montgomery.

The Prime Minister, addressing the R.A.F. men in Normandy, said: "There are grave signs of weakness in Germany. They are in a state of great turmoil inside, and none can measure the extent". Mr. Churchill added: "They are shooting each other. It might be that the fighting might come to an end earlier than we have the right to say".

The American Government have announced their decision to recognise the French Committee of National Liberation as *de facto* authority and Government in the liberated areas of France pending elections In a message on Bastille Day, President Roosevelt said that he was confident that the French people would celebrate their National Day next year on French soil, "liberated both from the Nazis and the Vichy puppets." It is a welcome sign that at long last Washington has been able to make up its mind between Petain and de Gaulle.

Soviet Forces nearing Reich Border

The Red Army is believed to be now fighting on the immediate approaches to East Prussia.

While the nearest point on the map shows that the Russians are within some 40 to 45 miles of the original Reich border, there is reason to believe that in a number of sectors advanced Soviet units are very much nearer to it.

Soviet guns are lobbing shells into the outer defences of Kovno (Kaunas), the pre war Lithuanian capital just over 40 miles from the East Prussian frontier. At the same time, Soviet tanks and motor cycle Storm Troops are pushing ahead on the highway within a few miles from the city.

Sensational advances are also registered on both sides of Brest Litovsk. By-passing the fortress on the north, the Russians are reported to be within sight of Warsaw.

Chiang's Pledge

Marshal Chiang Kai Shek in a message to the nation on the seventh anniversary of the war against Japan said

I hold myself responsible to the nation fellow countrymen and the Allies to continue the war until victory has been attained and lost territory recovered The Japanese drive in Hunan is five years too late but it is no use ignoring the fact that the enemy has made rapid advances in his new drive and the situation is grave I believe it will not be too long before the war in Europe is brought to a successful conclusion All the facts indicate that part of Allied strategy (in the Pacific) has been carefully mapped out and is successfully unfolded

Roosevelt Nominated

The Democratic Party Convention has nominated Mr Franklin D Roosevelt Democratic candidate for a fourth term as President of the United States Mr Roosevelt received 1 086 votes compared to 89 votes for Senator Harry Byrd of Virginia

Senator Alban W Barkley nominating President Roosevelt declared amid wild cheers that his leadership was unsurpassed if ever equalled in the annals of American history

Seconding the nomination Mr H A Wallace Vice President said President Roosevelt is a greater Liberal than has ever been His soul is pure he thinks big he sees far

Jap Retreat from Imphal

The battle for Imphal has ended in the victory of the 14th Army The grandiose plan of the Japs to capture Imphal and continue their thrust in India has been once and for all blasted The last remnants of the Jap Force retreating down the Tiddim Road is seeking shelter in the Chin Hills There is no organised Japanese force whatsoever within 25 miles of Imphal

Turkey breaks with Germany

Turkey has broken off diplomatic and economic relations with Germany The Prime Minister of Turkey announced this at the meeting of the National Assembly on August 2

M Sarajoglu said that this decision did not mean that Turkey would enter the war and declared that that depended on the attitude taken by Germany

The Soviet and the Poles

Events are moving rapidly in Eastern Europe following the Soviet thrust against Warsaw As the Red army approaches the Polish capital the Soviet Government have issued a statement on the same basis as M Molotv s proclamation to the Rumanians They give assurance that Polish sovereignty is to be respected that there is to be no attempt whatsoever to alter the internal social order and that the only object of the military operations is the destruction of the German Army This is at once valuable and significant For it will be noticed that the Soviet Government are now dealing with the newly formed Polish Committee of National Liberation they have broken completely with the *emigre* Polish Government which is recognised both by London and Washington

Finland s Move

It is officially announced from Helsinki that President Ryti has resigned and that he has been succeeded by Field Marshal Mannerheim who was appointed by a decree and not elected as is customary M Linkomies moved a resolution in Parliament that Field Marshall Mannerheim should be President The decree also provided that what was called a great burden of functions on the shoulders of the President should be transferred to M Linkomies

In this connection *Reuter s* diplomatic correspondent wires that Finland has learned her lesson and is about seriously to sue for peace

V Four Hitler s Weapon In Normandy

Hitler s latest Vee weapon—V Four—made its apperance on the Canadian front in Normandy and soldiers who saw it termed it just another Gadget V Four is a robot tank much larger than the pygmy tanks used unsuccessfully by the Germans in Italy Unlike the Pygmies it has a driver who takes the tank as far as he can gets out and directs it into the opposing lines by wireless The tank is supposed to jettison a quantity of explosives turn round and waddle back Six tanks that exploded caused no casualties although the troops reported that there was considerable blast

DIARY OF THE MONTH

July 1. Viceroy replies to Gandhiji that interview "could have no value."

July 2. Rommel's counter attack against Tilly Caen salient repelled.
—Aaland Islands occupied.

July 3. Sir M Visveswaraya addressing the Science Institute, Bangalore, stresses the importance of applied research.

July 4. Polotsk is captured by Russians.
—Allies capture Ukhrul in Assam Front.

July 5. World Monetary Conference turns down Indian proposal.
—Hitler's address to Armament Chiefs.

July 6 Mr. Churchill's address to the Commons *re* Flying bombs.
—Roosevelt de Gaulle talks in Washington.

July 7. Americans raid Japan's Naval Base at Sasebo.
—Manin Island in S. W. Pacific occupied by the Allies

July 8. Conquest of Saipan.
—Allies capture *Caen.*

July 9. Correspondence between C. R. and Jinnah *re* Congress League settlement released.

July 10. Fifth Army takes Volterra in Italy.
—Second Army launches offensive in Normandy.
—Lord Halifax is granted the title of Earl of Halifax

July 11. Government defeat in the House of Lords *re* Education Bill
—Red Army crosses into Latvia.

July 12. Agreement with Germany *re* exchange of interned civilians is announced by Mr. Eden.

July 13. Russians take Vilna.
—New Government in Lebanon is formed.
—Jap 18th Army is trapped.
—Fifth Army takes Legatico.

July 14. Russians capture Pinsk.
—Japs reinforce Soviet border. Sudden suspension of Hunan drive.
—Mr. B. G Kher is released.
—Lord Somers, chief Scout, is dead.

July 15. U.S. forces converge on Leghorn.
—Gandhiji's new programme released.

July 16. Indian industrialists plead for review of policy by Government
—Nazis evacuate Grodno.
—Eighth Army takes Arezzo.

July 17. Flying bombs over London area.
—1,000 fortresses raid Munich.

July 18. Americans take St. Lo.
—Bengal businessmen's appeal to Viceroy.

July 19. Gandhiji, in an interview, explains that his proposals were not dictated by a sense of defeatism.
—Russians cross Curzon line.

July 20. Jap retreat from Imphal.
—C.R. says that his formula has not lapsed with the breaking off of his personal negotiations with Mr. Jinnah.

July 21. Democratic Party Convention nominates Roosevelt.
—Hitler escapes attempted assassination.

July 22. New Japanese Cabinet formed with Gen. Koiso as Premier.

July 23. C.R. defends his procedure in regard to his scheme.
—Gandhiji refutes Sind Minister's allegation of revival of civil disobedience.

July 24. Two Generals die of wounds in the Berlin bomb incident.
—King George visits Italy.

July 25. Lords debate on India. Earl Munster stands by Cripps' proposals.

July 26. Gandhiji expresses disappointment at the Lords' debate on India.
—Goebbels tells the story of the army coup.

July 27. Allied attack on Sabang; harbour installations destroyed.
—India Government accepts U.S. invitation for talks *re* post war civil aviation .

July 28. Commons debate on India. Mr. Amery rejects Gandhiji's offer.

July 29. Mr. Jinnah expresses his readiness to meet Mr. Gandhi.
—League executive meets at Lahore.

July 30. Mr. Jinnah, addressing the League Council, opposes plebiscite proposal in C R's offer.

—Gandhiji says that the C.R. formula is conceived in all sincerity and is a "contribution from two life servants of the nation.

July 31. Allies take Granville.
—Russians capture Kovno, the Lithuanian capital.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

BEST STORIES OF MODERN BENGAL Vol I Edited by Dilip K Gupta and translated by Nilima Devi The Signet Press Calcutta

Though Bengali literature is rich and vital the authors with whom the world outside Bengal is familiar may be counted on one's fingers Rabindranath in his English version easily takes first place in the public mind To some extent Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Sarat Chandra Chatterjee are equally well known But there are scores of other authors whose works are intrinsically as valuable as those of the three illustrious writers of Bengal

The enterprising publishers have made a praiseworthy attempt to present the best stories of modern Bengal in English —thus familiarising the English knowing public with the rich treasures of Bengali literature Here in the first of the two volumes promised we have a collection of twelve most representative stories written by authors well known in Bengal but hardly recognised outside the province By presenting a faithful and readable translation of these stories the publishers have done a double service—one to the authors and the other to the public While the authors are rescued from their comparative obscurity the public are offered a sumptuous fare at once rich and varied in its entertainment

SOME EMINENT BEHAR CONTEMPORARIES By Dr Sachchidananda Sinha Himalaya Publications Patna

Dr Sinha Editor of the *Hindustan Review* has had a long and distinguished career at the bar and in public life Apart from public activity he has filled high and responsible positions in the field of administration and education with great credit and distinction Through half a century of varied activities official and non official he has come in close and intimate association with many leading men in the country particularly his eminent contemporaries in his own province From time to time he has had occasion to write of them in the press What with his easy command of anecdotes and his racy reminiscences the sketches were always delightful reading In the present volume we have a collection of over a score of these studies which deserve careful reading They reveal Dr Sinha's wide sympathies and warm attachments and a quick observing eye and ready penmanship to express his critical appreciations It is easy to see that Dr Sinha's Beharee friends hail from different political parties *and diverse communities but party* distinctions and communal differences have in no way affected the warm and generous nature of his friendships Sir Ali and Hasan Imam no less than Dr Ganganath Jha or Justice Jwala Prasad equally share his unfailing appreciation The volume incidentally shows the riches of the little province of Behar in terms of its great men Beharees will treasure this galaxy of great names as illustrious as any in any area of the country They owe a deep debt of gratitude to Dr Sinha who has made many of them live again in these brilliant pages

PIONEER WOMEN OF INDIA By Padmini Sen Gupta Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay Rs 4 12

The twenty five women selected for characterisation come from different communities and cover a wide field of achieved distinction The sketches give an impressive picture of the courage and intelligence of those pioneers who have devoted their lives to the uplift of Indian womanhood Among them are social and educational reformers like Pandita Ramabai politicians like Mrs Sarojini Devi poets like Toru Dutt Doctors writers musicians dancers and even athletes like Leela Row Altogether this brilliant series of sketches which had originally appeared in the *Statesman* of Calcutta deserve the more permanent shape given to them with a Foreword from the pen of Mr Jepson of the *Illustrated Weekly of India*

DISTRIBUTION OF LEGISLATIVE POWERS IN THE FUTURE INDIAN FEDERATION. By M. Ramaswamy. With a foreword by the Right Hon'ble Viscount Sankey. Longmans, Green & Co, Ltd. Rs. 4.

A new constitution will have to be framed for India after the cessation of the present war It is very likely to be federal. And one of the most difficult problems in the framing of a federal constitution is the division of powers between the centre and the units. In this book the learned author suggests that in the future federal constitution of India there should be only one list enumerating the exclusive and concurrent powers of the centre, the residue being given to the units. Besides being simple, this will satisfy Muslim opinion.

The author has drawn up a list of subjects over which the Federation will have powers. In making up this list, he has drawn extensively on the experience gained by the three great English speaking federations. We feel that the Hindu Law of succession and property should have been placed in the federal list.

The book deserves to be read and studied by our statesmen and constitutional lawyers.

WHY PAKISTAN?—AND WHY NOT? By K. T. Shah. Pratibha Publications, Bombay.

This is quite a novel and attractive form of political writing modelled on the great dialogues of Plato. The knottiest problem of present-day politics is discussed without passion or prejudice and all the threads of ethical, political, economic, social and cultural aspects of Pakistan are drawn out in the course of a dialogue which is often piquant and always arresting The characters are all imaginary and Professor Shah's dramatic exposition of a burning topic of the day is of absorbing interest. Apart from the seriousness and importance of the subject under discussion, the style and presentment add to the beauty and attractions of his treatment of a well-worn topic.

We welcome such a thought-provoking book at this hour when the air is filled with the echoes of Pakistan controversy.

KNOW YOUR FUTURE. Madam Haggai's Almanac. Thacker and Company. Ltd., Bombay. Rs. 3.

"Vibration is life and life is number in action". It is always interesting to study ourselves and understand the expression of everything that exists. Numerology is but one of the many branches of the science that helps us in such a study. In this attractive little almanac, Madam Haggai has successfully attempted to apply the science to the everyday life of the individual and had given us aspects of the months—June 1944 to May 1945. With the help of the book, it is possible for the average person to work out the most individualistic predictions to the nearest possible margin of correctness.

The almanac is very well got up and the title is snappy.

BOOKS RECEIVED

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OR PEOPLES' GOVERNMENT By M. N. Roy. Radical Democratic Party. Calcutta.

TATA-BIRLA PLAN Will it work? By B. T. Ranadive Peoples' Publishing House, Sandhurst Road, Bombay

HEAVY INDUSTRIES IN BRITISH INDIA. A. I. M. O. Monograph The All India Manufacturers' Organisation, Bombay.

HINDUSTHAN YEAR BOOK (1944). M. C. Sarkar & Sons, Calcutta

SELECTIONS FROM SWAMI VIVEKANANDA. Advaita Ashrama, Almora. (G A. Natesan & Co. Rs 6)

HISTORY OF GINGEE AND ITS RULERS. By Rao Bahadur C S Srinivasachariar, M.A. The Annamalai University, Annamalainagar.

KALI WORSHIP IN KERALA. (Malayalam). By Dr. C. Achyuta Menon. Madras University, Madras.

CRITIQUE OF CHINA'S DESTINY. By Chen Pai ta. Peoples' Publishing House, Bombay.

THE GREAT LITTLE WOMAN OF INDIA. By K. P. Thomas. Orient Illustrated Weekly, Calcutta.

THE FUTURE OF INDIA. Part III. By R. Coupland. Oxford University Press, Madras

SOVIET RUSSIA. By K. S. Hirlekar Popular Book Depot, Bombay.

GANDHI THE MASTER By K. M. Munshi. Popular Book Depot, Bombay.

THE BETRAYAL OF FREEDOM. By Y. G. Krishnamurthy. Popular Book Depot, Bombay.

THE YOGA OF THE SAINTS. By V. H. Date, M.A, PH.D. Popular Book Depot, Bombay.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

ONE MAN RULE

The second number of *Hindoosthan* the high class quarterly, edited by Sir N N Sircar, fully maintains the high standard set by the first It has a valuable contribution from the pen of Sir Jagadish Prasad touching the abuse of Section 93 in the Provinces and the need to end this one man rule in India

This section, he says, has been so applied as to concentrate all legislative, administrative and financial powers in the hands of the Governors who have assumed to themselves the functions hitherto exercised by the Ministers They control not only the whole of the Provincial administration (in the five Provinces of Madras Bombay, U P, C P and Bihar), but can make laws for all Provincial purposes, including taxation and supply

In each of these Provinces there are official advisers appointed by the Governor and chosen from the Indian Civil Service Out of eighteen Advisers only three are Indians, one each in the Provinces of Madras, United Provinces and Bihar The vital departments of Finance and Law and Order are in the hands of Advisers drawn from the British section of the Indian Civil Service

As under the Proclamation the Governor acts ' in his discretion", he is not subject to the control of the Governor General in Council but to the control of the Governor General and the Secretary of State for India The recent expansions of the Governor General s Executive Council, which have given Indians a majority on the Council, have not affected the Governor s powers in the least

He is now an autocrat, such as he has never been before ruling over vast territories and populations with no Indian colleagues to shape policy and with no legislatures to scrutinize his administration The annual budgets involving millions of public money are framed and passed without any public discussion; numerous laws controlling the daily life of the citizen are enacted without public criticism, far reaching schemes of post war reconstruction, involving large financial commitments, are planned without any reference to Indian public opinion which has now no opportunity of making itself effective

The elected representatives of non Congress Hindus, of Muslims, of Indian Christians, of special interests like the universities, the landed and commercial classes have been disfranchised for no fault of their own

The total exclusion of all Indians, whatever their political creed, from partnership in the Governments of their provinces, and their powerlessness to influence administration and Government policy through their elected representatives have produced a feeling of bitterness and disillusionment The change to complete autocracy is all the more felt as, for nearly thirty years, these provinces had a legislature with an elective element, and for twenty years, a Government with a majority of Indian members

The official view is that this retrogression is due to the folly of the Congress party resigning office in 1939 and its continued refusal to retrace its steps The question that immediately arises is whether there is no alternative to complete autocracy so long as the Congress party does not make its peace with the British Government

Section 93 of the Government of India Act, under which these autocracies have been set up, is a very elastic section It was not meant to perpetuate dictatorship but to safeguard the constitution Under it, the Governor need not have suspended the legislature He could have laid down that *vis a vis* the executive government it would function in the same manner as does the central legislature The executive government could have been formed in a number of ways non official Advisers a combination of official and non-official Advisers Ministers with responsibility to the Governor In short Section 93 could have been used to preserve some aspects of popular Government It has unfortunately been used to remove completely all vestige of it

If the Proclamations are revoked, then too, there are alternatives which deserve consideration. It is the opinion of many competent observers that in the changed circumstances of today, it is quite likely that the majority party, in the event of its refusing to take office will make no attempt to wreck a ministry which does not command a majority in the Legislature.

Even if such an attempt were made, it could be rendered ineffective under suitable conventions Another possibility would be to establish Executive Councils responsible to the Governor by a slight amendment of the Act

It would be unwise for Government not to explore the practicability of these various alternatives

GANDHIJI'S CALL TO ALLIED NATIONS

The British news magazine *Cavalcade* recently sent four questions to Mahatma Gandhi. The fourth question stated. "Will you outline your conception of the role of a free India in the post-war world with special relations to the peoples of the *British Commonwealth* and the *United States of America?*"

Gandhiji replied

If I have any say in post war policy, a free National Government of India will promote a Commonwealth of all World States naturally, including the British Commonwealth and America and also, if possible, belligerent States so as to reduce to the minimum the possibility of armed conflict between different States

Amplifying his reply in the course of a talk with journalists, Gandhiji said:

I have answered the question as a confirmed war resister and if I became a party to the August Resolution and if I now suggest what I consider to be perfectly honourable solution, it is because thereby I expect to promote the war resistance effort, I dream for us a world where there will be no strife between nations and nations It is possible only if Great Britain, America and Russia contemplate such world peace. I deliberately omit China for, unfortunately, China is not able, like Russia, Britain or America to stand alone, though much bigger than all these three powerful nations and more ancient. China is still menaced by Japan and needs all the assistance that she can get before she can rise to her full height. I see no chance for the groaning world unless the three States now demonstrate to the world that they have one mind, that they are not putting forth the effort they are doing for any selfish design but that they are truly fighting for all democracies on the face of the earth.

My proposal is an acid test and I have no shadow of doubt that its hearty acceptance by Britain will immediately turn the scales and ensure the defeat of the belligerent powers and fill exploited nations of the earth with hope You see that I am therefore fighting for no small stake.

INDIA ONE AND INDIVISIBLE

Under the caption "My Brothers' Face", Mr. Muhammad Ali Azam, Engineer in Plastics, now working in California, discusses the position of Asiatic nations in the *Asia and the Americas.*

He attributes the communal strife mainly *to economic misery:*

I can now diagnose with accuracy the communal disease in thousands of Hindus and Muslims who, like me, feel the terrific impact of poverty and seek an apparent relief in despair. Religion has thus been blindly and wrongly blamed for what has not been its doing and a cure has been sought in vain for the malignant forces of disruption before they are located.

Many American readers who have been convinced by thousands of reports of the unbridgeable abyss separating Muslims and Hindus may reconsider their opinion after reading Mr. Azam's plea.

India to-day is not a Hindu India or a Muslim India. It is essentially the whole India of Hindus, Muslims and of course other minorities. It is India of Muslim democracy and Hindu science, of Hindu astrology and Muslim algebra. It is India of Hindu translations of the Koran and Muslim translations of the Ramayana. It is India of Hindu generals and Muslim rulers, of a Muslim dewan of Hindu Maharaja. It is India of Hindu blacksmiths, Muslim Zolas, Hindu Baniya and Muslim ryots, India of Hindu professors, Muslim students and India of Muslim mechanics and Hindu workshops It is Hindu and Muslim India engrafted as one and indivisible.

AN ARTIST'S TRIBUTE TO GANDHI

"I wish it might fall to me before I die to be the carver of a statue to be erected in honour of Mr. Gandhi and I would place it on the pedestal before the India Office", writes Miss Clare Sheridan in the *New Vision*, a quarterly review devoted to freedom for subject peoples.

Miss Sheridan is a world famous sculptress and a near cousin of Mr. Churchill She writes:

It is not very easy to speculate as to the future when history is being woven at the present accelerated speed—but one can safely assume that *the next generation of British rulers*, whatever class they may belong to, will be devoid of their present prejudices I even dare to affirm that the generations of future will claim and acclaim such personalities as Gandhi, Nehru, Tagore as brilliant adjuncts of British heritage. Three such men in the same epoch is remarkable. I would add Radhakrishnan to their number, and who knows how many more there may be known to India and unknown to us?

Mr. Gandhi has without any effort on his part triumphed over all libels and travesties that have been published about him over a period of years. But truth triumphs in time. Today truth about Mr Gandhi is known to a majority of the public in all lands. His prestige is high. His intrinsic sincerity and nobility is unquestioned

However, opinions may vary as to his qualities as a politician There is no question about the quality of his aims and ambitions and no doubt about the quality of Mahatma's soul and great spirit.

NATIONALIZATION OF EDUCATION

Writing under the above title in the *Social Welfare*, Prof H D Sethna makes some pertinent observations on the future possibilities of Indianizing education

To nationalize any field of work is not merely to place it in the hands of Indians This is a platitude whose meaning we learn with pain in almost every sphere of national endeavour And specially in education, where we attempt to forge character on the anvil of the highest ideals we are bound to be stung with disillusionment

Nationalization of education does not consist merely in taking over the leadership in education or in having Indian teachers and educational institutions

Even more than this, nationalization of education means the spirit of devotion to education Such devotion was a life of sacrifice and simple living so that the educationists could follow single mindedly their ideal of teaching the people

A stereotyped system of education parochial and alien in outlook, cannot but fail to inspire national fervour or 'develop the best possible manhood" in the Indian youth

BRITAIN OR AMERICA

Bertrand Russell English philosopher and writer, now resident in the United States, in an article in the *Saturday Evening Post*, entitled 'Can Americans and Britons be friends?" asserted recently that

as long as Brittania ruled the waves, the English were inclined to despise other nations and were not always careful to hide their contempt But now that the American navy is larger than the British, Washington is the governmental centre of the world and New York the financial centre The English, after being dominant for 200 years, have got to learn to take the second place and do it as gracefully as possible The arrogance which formerly was theirs is now rapidly crossing the Atlantic along with sea power

He concluded

There is at the moment great friendliness in England towards America and it is important both to our own nations and to mankind as a whole that this friendliness should be reciprocated United we have a rare opportunity to move the world in the direction of our common ideals but if we are kept apart by mutual suspicions, the enemies of our hopes will triumph

NEW APPROACH TO INDIA

Professor A V. Hill, MP, in an article in the *Spectator* urges a completely new approach to the problems of India India has been too often the plaything of British party politics I am wholly with those, here (England) and in India, who look forward to Indian Self Government as proper and inevitable , he says

The new approach required to Indian problems is that of welfare and national development—the direction of all methods and expedients of modern science and technology, including medicine agriculture and education to a fuller use of all natural and human resources and the betterment of the life of the people

Professor Hill describes the setting up of the new Department of Planning and development as the best possible start, but says that one danger exists—that of supposing that industry and industrialisation are the chief or only needs of India

That a great growths of Indian industry is essential nobody would deny, but the fundamental needs of India are related to the great biological complex of population health, agriculture and food A great future may lie before India, an age of happiness, prosperity and self respect among nations But there is no easy way to it Only hard thought, hard work and the fullest use of scientific methods together with friendly co operation at home and abroad and a general willingness to submit to economic control and social change

END THE IMPASSE

The current issue of *Irish Freedom*, reviewing the Indian situation, says that in an economic sense India's situation is positively alarming

The paper refers to the fall of industrial production the rise in prices, and the disastrous effects of the Bengal famine and says, 'The position in India is pregnant with catastrophes unless the short sighted and obstinate policy, which Mr Amery represents is altered The continuation of that policy can only produce very bitter fruits Therefore the present impasse must be ended

"To end it, the first thing necessary is the release of the imprisoned National Congress leaders Secondly, negotiations need to be opened with the Indian peoples' leaders for establishing a provisional National Government Thirdly, the right of India to form her own National Government must be conceded'

INDIAN STATES

—:o:—

Hyderabad

NIZAM'S MESSAGE TO LAW CONFERENCE

The All-India Law Conference, organised by the Law Union, Osmania University, was opened at Hyderabad on July 18, Sir Abdul Qadir presiding.

A message to the Conference from H.E.H. the Nizam said

There exists in my Dominions complete separation of the executive from the judiciary and this separation is one of the basic features of my administration The High Court endowed with my charter enjoys a position of dignity and independence as the highest court in the State. A department for the study and teaching of law has been created in the Osmania University and has been contributing not only to the personnel of my Judicial Service, but also to the Bar, and the relations between the Bar and the Bench have remained cordial. Underlying both the administration and the study of law is the fundamental idea of the reign of law, which must be the foundation of every administration. I trust that in promoting the study of law and of its different aspects and in affording a medium for exchange of ideas this Conference will not only succeed in creating popular interest in an academic study of the law, but also result in full appreciation of its place in the life of the community.

Declaring the Conference open, the Nawab of Chhatari, President of the Nizam's Executive Council, said that the law, if it was to be an effective instrument in the governance of society, must be fundamentally a dynamic conception Administered and interpreted in that manner and legislated under that conception, it can be the best means of social progress.

Nawab Alam Yar Jung Bahadur, Law Member of the Nizam's Executive Council, welcomed the gathering on behalf of Osmania University.

RATIONING IN HYDERABAD

Rationing has come into force in Hyderabad since June 11. The rationed articles are wheat and its products, rice, other millets and kerosene. Nearly 60,000 ration cards have been issued and 160 shops have been opened. As a preliminary to rationing, Government issued deboarding orders directing all dealers to declare their stocks of food-grains by June 8.

Mysore

AID FOR MINOR INDUSTRIES

A novel scheme for the solution of unemployment among educated classes has been sanctioned by the Government of Mysore who have framed rules empowering the Director of Industries and Commerce to grant loans for this purpose.

Under the scheme, the Director is authorised to grant loans to deserving persons who are Mysoreans by birth or domicile for the purchase of technical equipment, including cost of erection. Loans will also be advanced to meet losses in the early stages of production and even working capital in special cases. Grants will not exceed Rs. 1,000 and would in no case go beyond Rs- 2,000. Half the amount advanced will be treated as subsidy, the balance being loan, interest free, repayable in equal monthly instalments spread over a period not exceeding five years.

MYSORE ELECTIONS

The *Mysore State Congress* swept the polls in the recent election to the District Local Boards and in some places even secured cent per cent votes.

Cochin

COCHIN BUDGET

A revenue of Rs. 218·69 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 202·09, leaving a surplus of Rs. 16·60 lakhs, are estimated in the Cochin Government's budget for the Malayalam year 1120—August 17, 1944 to August 16, 1945.

The actual revenue for the current year is Rs. 209·84 exceeding the budget estimate by Rs 23·95 lakhs, while expenditure is expected to reach Rs. 190·83 lakhs, representing an increase of Rs. 23·95 lakhs over the budget estimate.

The budget for the new year includes increased allotments for education, public health and irrigation works.

The budget was presented to the Legislative Council on Monday the 24th July, by the Finance Member, Mr. P. P. Raphael.

Baroda

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

A demand for Responsible Government in Baroda formed the subject of the main resolutions passed by the Subjects Committee of the Baroda Praja Mandal after about five hours of deliberation at Kathore recently The resolution says that

in most of the Indian States there is a rule of autocracy prevailing and in some of these States an attempt has been made to make a slow of giving constitutional reforms by putting up shadow legislatures There seems to be no inclination to allow the people of Baroda to come into close association with the State inasmuch as the Executive Council and the Ministers selected by the Government have been made in no way responsible to the people or the Legislature Consequently the growth and development of the people have been retarded Therefore this Conference emphatically demands the establishment of Responsible Government at the earliest possible opportunity and appeals to the people of Baroda to put forth all possible efforts to attain this goal

The Praja Mandal Subjects Committee passed a resolution demanding immediate holding of fresh elections to the legislature municipalities and local bodies in the State

Another resolution extended full support to the peaceful agitation for Indian independence and declared unshakeable faith in the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi

A reolution on the food situation in Baroda State demanded the introduction of rationing in all places having a population of 10 000 or more

Bikaner

MR PANIKKAR AS PRIME MINISTER

H H the Maharaja of Bikaner has appointed Mr K M Panikkar as Prime Minister of the State in succession to Mr K. Kripalani

Mr Panikkar has been associated with the Indian States for about 18 years during which time he has served not merely individual rulers and States but the entire Princely order through the Chamber of Princes and its connected organisations as Deputy Director of the Special Organisation of the Chamber of Princes and as Secretary to the Indian States Delegation to the Round Table Conferences

Travancore

POST WAR SCHEME FOR TRAVANCORE

A 12 point programme for the post war reconstruction of Travancore State was outlined by Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar Dewan of Travancore in an interview at Madras on July 1

The programme includes the expansion of the present hydro electric resources of the State the expansion of primary and vocational education the production of fertilisers and chemicals utilisation and exploitation of soft wood and hard wood resources for the production of plywood and ultimately rayon and artificial silk the exploitation of the mineral sand of the State which produces valuable rare minerals like ilmenite monazite and zircon the enlargement of industries like aluminium rubber products china clay and porcelain and the speedy inauguration of a cement plant for the purpose of cement concreting the main roads of the State

MADRAS—TRAVANCORE AGREEMENT

A general agreement between the Madras Government and Travancore State on the question of investigation into the possibilities of the development of hydro electric power in Periyar and Cardamom Hills areas on the borders of Travancore was reached at a Conference between Mr S V Ramamurthi Adviser to the Governor of Madras and Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar Dewan of Travancore with Engineers of the respective Governments

Kashmir

HANDS OFF KASHMIR

Even if lakhs of Jinnahs come to Kashmir they cannot effect any change in local politics declared Sheikh Mahomed Abdullah President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference addressing a crowded public meeting referring to Mr Jinnah's speech at the Muslim Conference session vehemently criticizing the policy of the National Conference

Mr Abdullah said I wanted Kashmir politics to be free from outside interference but unfortunately Mr Jinnah willed it otherwise and brought the evil germs of British Indian politics here

INDIANS OVERSEAS

—:o:—

South Africa

REPEAL OF THE PEGGING ACT

Interviewed by the Associated Press regarding the proposal to remove the Pegging Act in South Africa, Dr. N. B. Khare, the Commonwealth Minister, said

This news is really heartening to Indians The principle of segregation of Indian nationals by law, which gave Indians inferior status and against which the India Government were fighting, disappears.

The Rt. Hon Sastri observed in an interview with the press

Our Commonwealth Minister, Dr N B Khare, seems to be pleased with the new arrangement in Durban to replace the Pegging Act by an Ordinance of the Natal Administration. The principle that measures of discrimination against Indians, if they are not in the form of legislation, are not so objectionable was first countenanced by the Mahatma when he stipulated that immigation of Indians should be controlled or prevented by regulations made under the law and it is ungracious to dispute it after these years. The substantial results being disadvantageous to the Indian community, one fails to see what has in reality been gained. Moreover, in this instance, Union Legislation is abandoned, but Provincial Ordinance is substituted, is this anything more than face saving?

Whether, in the event, the new arrangement protects the Indian community from aggression, the future alone can disclose. If the Natal Indian Congress is really satisfied with the compromise we in India need not look behind it As yet, however, nothing clear has emerged and it is too soon to rejoice My experience of the way in which colour prejudice works out in South Africa does not enable me to be sanguine of the result

East Africa

KENYA HIGHLANDS' POLICY

Commenting on the Kenya highlands' policy, which has been the subject of a protest by the Indian Congress of Nairobi, the Colonial Office states: The position of the Indian community in regard to the holding of land is not altered in any shape or form. The Land Control Bill deals entirely with the Kenya highlands, which the Indian community have never held. Since the principle was laid down about 1908, the highlands have been kept more or less exclusively for Europeans.

Australia

INDIA AND AUSTRALIA

Speaking at a tea party given in his honour by the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, Sir Raghunath Paranjpye said that the Indian problem in Australia was not so acute as the Indian problem in South Africa. Still, there were several questions to be settled and he gave the assurance that he would do his best to promote the interests of India in Australia.

Australia, continued Sir Raghunath, had enormous importance in the present war and would have a great deal to say about the Pacific and South-East Asia settlement. He hoped that India also would have her say in that settlement.

Stressing the need for better social, cultural and trade relations between Australia and India, Sir Raghunath suggested the exchange of professors and students between the two countries. In conclusion, Sir Raghunath said that to discuss political questions between India and Australia or between India and any other country, the strength of representatives was directly proportional to the strength of the Government behind. "If we are free in our country, I think, we count more in another country than otherwise", he said.

U.S.A. and South Africa

CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS IN AMERICA

In a resolution moved from the Chair on Indians abroad, the Federation demanded that the Government of India should secure for Indians in the United States rights of citizenship, and negotiate a treaty of commerce and navigation with the U.S. Government so that Indian nationals might enjoy a status to carry on trade uninterruptedly in that country. The resolution also registered its emphatic protest against the Anti-Indian Pegging Legislation of the Union of South Africa as it was inconsistent with India's partnership in the British Commonwealth and repugnant to the basic ideals for which the war was being fought."

M.U L T U M IN PARVO

NEWS ✝ DEPARTMENTAL ✝ NOTES

Questions of Importance

INDIAN INDUSTRIALISTS' CALL

An earnest plea to the Viceroy for an immediate review of policy in order to explore the possibilities of a setttlement in view of Mahatma Gandhi's declarations, is made by leading Indian Industrialists led by Sir Homi Mody, ex Member of the Viceroy's Council. In a joint manifesto, the signatories urge the Viceroy to release the members of the Congress Executive, as, in their opinion, "there is no longer any reason for detention of the members of the Congress Working Committee." Following is the text of the manifesto.

In the recent correspondence between His Excellency the Viceroy and Mahatma Gandhi, the Viceroy, dealing with the request for an opportunity to meet the Working Committee of the Congress, stated that as the Mahatma had recently made public his adherence to the 'Quit India' resolution, which the Viceroy could not regard as a reasonable or practical policy for the immediate future, the permission sought for could not be granted. If the Viceroy's intention was that until the 'Quit India' resolution was definitely withdrawn, nothing could be done, the deadlock is bound to continue If, however, the Viceroy's real concern was to have an assurance that the civil disobedience movement would not be resumed and that the war effort would not be obstructed, there has been a hopeful development this week which demands serious consideration. In an interview with Mr Stuart Gelder, Correspondent of the *News Chronicle* of London, the Mahatma has categorically stated that he has no intention of offering Civil Disobedience to day and that he cannot take the country back to 1942 He has further emphasised that his object is not to embarrass the British Government We regard this as such a clarification of the situation as to call for an immediate review of policy on the part of the Viceroy, and we earnestly urge His Excellency not to miss this opportunity of exploring the possibilities of a settlement.

In view of this latest development, we feel there is now, no longer, any reason for the detention of the members of the Working Committee, and we hope, they will soon be set free The Viceroy and the British Government will otherwise be inviting the criticism that they have no intention of moving towards a settlement and that they are determined to carry on, as they are doing, regardless of the country wide feeling that their persistence in a purely negative policy is against the true interests of India.

DR MATTHAI ON 15 YEAR-PLAN

"The proper execution of the Fifteen-year Plan and the availability of sterling balances are very closely related. But the recent discussions in the International Monetary Conference make me doubt whether we would get those sterling balances at the time we need it. This means, the plan will not be achieved within the time of fifteen years as expected", said Dr John Matthai, one of the authors of the plan, at an at home given by the Bombay Presidency Women's Council.

Speaking on the distributive aspect of the plan, Dr. Matthai said that this was a very vital question under the plan and was very much under the consideration of the authors Giving his personal views on the question, Dr. Matthai said, that there were two ways of satisfactorily handling this question—firstly enabling each individual in the country to increase his earning capacity to the highest degree possible and secondly by making the necessaries of life less expensive.

INDIA AND WAR AGAINST JAPAN

The cost of the war against Japan was the subject of a question in the Commons when Captain Gammans (Conservative) asked what proportion was borne by the Imperial and Indian exchequers respectively.

Mr. Amery's reply was: "The cost of operations that can be regarded as local defence of India falls on Indian revenues. Expenditure relating to the expulsion of Japanese forces from Indian territory obviously falls in that category. I am not in a position to translate the effect of this arrangement, in relation to the whole eventual cost of operations against Japan, into any specific proportions as between the British and Indian exchequers."

Utterances of the Day

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S OFFER

President Roosevelt is running for a fourth term. He announced this decision at a Press Conference at Washington on July 10. The President said:

Reluctantly but as a good soldier, I will accept and serve in this office if I am so ordered by the Commander in Chief of us all—the sovereign people of the United States.

For myself I do not want to run By next spring I shall have been President and Commander-in Chief of the armed forces for 12 years—three times elected by the people of this country under the American constitutional system.

From the personal point of view, I believe our economic system is on a sounder and more human basis than it was at the time of my first inauguration

After many years of public service, therefore, my personal thoughts have turned to the day when I could return to civil life.

All that is within me cries out to go back to my home on the Hudson River to avoid public responsibilities and to avoid also the publicity, which, in our Democracy, follows every step of the nation's Chief Executive.

The President made his intention to seek re-election known in a letter to the Democratic Party National Chairman President Roosevelt read the letter. In it he said:

If the people elect me, I will serve. I would not run in the usual partisan sense. But if the people command me to continue in this office and this war, I have as little right to withdraw as a soldier has to leave his post in the line.

C. R. ON HIS NEW FORMULA

"Every time the situation changes, our duties change; they do not remain always the same", said Mr. Rajagopalachari, justifying Gandhiji's offer to Mr. Jinnah and the British Government, delivering the inaugural address to the Madras Presidency College Union Society on Monday, the 24th July.

The new offer, said Mr. Rajagopalachari, conceded the central demand of the Muslim League, self determination for Muslims in Muslim majority areas, and offered to co-operate with Britain in the war against Japan. In his view, if Britain accepted the offer now, when she and the Allies were winning the war, it would be an act full of moral potentiality.

American anxiety for a settlement in India, he said, was due to the fact that America was bearing the brunt of the war against Japan, and the friendship of a free nation for Britain was more precious than the loyalty of a subject nation.

Regretting that Mr. Jinnah had not expressed his personal opinion, Mr. Rajagopalachari felt that it was a good thing that Mr. Jinnah had "neither accepted nor rejected the offer." Whether Mr. Jinnah or the Muslim League accepted the offer or not, the offer was an expression of goodwill and a real contribution to a settlement.

SARDAR MANGAL SINGH'S PLEA

Presiding over the State Akali Conference held at Sangrur, Sardar Mangal Singh, M.L.A. (Central), said that Sikhs would always fight for the freedom of India shoulder to shoulder with the Indian National Congress and other progressive and patriotic elements of the country. At the same time, Sikhs would fight to safeguard the interests of their own community in the future constitution of India as "we do not want to be dominated by others nor do we want to dominate others".

The greatest need of the hour, Sirdar Mangal Singh added, was to arrive at a satisfactory communal settlement on an agreed formula for the establishment of a National Government at the Centre.

PLEA FOR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru has made the following statement in connection with Gandhiji's offer to the Government

I verily believe Gandhiji has extended his hand of good fellowship and made constructive suggestions which, if pursued in the proper spirit may bring about a solution of the deadlock To Muslims, he has made the most generous gesture in recognising the right of self determination—the one thing on which British opinion has laid so much stress That there is bound to be a good deal of opposition in India to the offer need surprise no one, but at the same time no one need despair of a solution being found on the basis of that offer to the Muslims Once that is accepted and differences between the two communities are composed on a rational basis, there is no reason why a National Government though not quite perfect in every constitutional detail could not be established at this juncture—a Government in which no single party will have the upper hand but including representatives of all important interests and accepting guidance in a collective manner of an Indian Prime Minister, Governments with composite Ministries should be restored in the Provinces now governed under Section 93 with much vaster powers in the hands of Governors than exercised by their predecessors during the past fifty years Conduct of the war and military administration according to Gandhiji will be in the hands of the British Government

The step taken in this direction will, in my opinion, resuscitate the faith of India in England It is essential for every member of the British Parliament to remember that the question of reviving that faith is the most pressing need of the hour We cannot live in the hope that some day post war India will become free and get full Self Government Nor can we feel happy about a big post war reconstruction scheme being taken in hand when duly constituted representatives of the people have no controlling voice in their shaping and direction Nothing is more dangerous than to hold that political progress can safely be postponed until after rebuilding India's economic structure No Indian with any intelligence will take such a proposition seriously and indeed this is a policy which is calculated to arouse the gravest suspicion in the Dominions

In my considered judgment, it would be disastrous to allow personal prejudices against Gandhiji and the Congress or distrust of both to intervene and allow this opportunity to slip by Promises there have been galore in the past but achievement has always fallen much short of promises What is necessary now is to prove that India's Self Government is not a vision of the future but a reality of the present

I can only add that Mahatma Gandhi's recent suggestions deserve more serious consideration than has been given them They must be examined and given proper constitutional form before reopening negotiations

GANDHI'S LETTER TO DR JAYAKAR

In view of the garbled and unauthorised version of Mahatma Gandhi's letter to Dr Jayakar that has appeared in the press, Mr Pyarelal, Gandhi's Secretary, has released the letter for publication Gandhiji says in the letter written from Juhu on May 20

The country expects much from me I do not know how you feel about this release I am not at all happy I feel even ashamed I should not have fallen ill I tried not to, but failed at length I feel that they will imprison me as soon as I am declared free from the present weakness And if they do not arrest me, what can I do?

I cannot withdraw the August Resolution As you have very properly said, it is innocuous You may differ about the sanction It is the breath of life for me I am silent till 29th Meanwhile shall I send Pyarelal to you? That too depends upon your health I know you are none too well

Gandhiji hopes that no deeper meaning would be read into the letter which was not meant, for publication and was necessarily brief

SIR HOMI ON GANDHIJI'S OFFER

Sir Homi Mehta, commenting on Mahatma Gandhi's terms for settlement of the present deadlock, said.

I am all for the establishment of a National Government at the Centre Mr Gandhi has clearly promised to help and not hinder the Allied effort and that should conciliate the Viceroy who is really and sincerely anxious for a settlement As for independence after the war, I do not believe any thinking man would seek to defeat, delay or deny it I have no doubt, but that the British Government are sincere in their promise to grant India freedom after the war Even if it were otherwise, India is certain to reap the full benefit of the triumph of freedom's cause which 33 United Nations are championing to day

Sir Homi Mehta added that the release of the Working Committee members would create the right atmosphere for negotiation and would also prove to the world the *bona fides* of the Government.

Educational

BENARES UNIVERSITY

A donation of Rs. 1,00,000 by Raja Dhanrajgirji for establishing a chair in Indian Philosophy and Religion at the Benares University was announced at a public meeting held at Hyderabad (Deccan). This is in addition to the collections made by old boys of the Benares University which total Rs. 1,25,000. Raja Pannalal has donated Rs. 25,000.

Addressing the meeting, Sir S. Radhakrishnan said 'If our country is ever going to make a great impression, it will not be on account of her political pre-eminence or economic prosperity or other things but on account of the greatness of her philosophy and religion. From the beginning of our history, the impression that India made on both East and West has been in that direction."

Sir S. Radhakrishnan said that the Benares University stood for the fundamental concepts of Indian philosophy and religion.

SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS

The Government of India have sanctioned a scheme of scholarship for students belonging to the Scheduled Castes who wish to pursue their studies in scientific and technological subjects beyond the matriculation stage. The total amount awarded every year will be Rs. 3,00,000, says a press note.

The scheme which aims at improving the educational and economic conditions of Scheduled Castes will have immediate effect. The number of scholarships to be awarded and their amount has not yet been fixed, but the amount awarded will cover the entire cost of education, including fees, cost of books and in the case of residential scholars their maintenance charges. Some of these scholarships will be given for studies in India and some in foreign countries.

For courses commencing in 1944, applications are being called through Directors of Public Instruction, Superintendents of Education and Vice-Chancellors of Universities. All the scholarships in 1944-45 will be for studies in India.

THE B. ED. SC. DEGREE

Explaining the scope and purpose of the degree of Bachelor of Educational Science (B. Ed. Sc), which is opened at Lucknow University this session, beginning from July 17, Mr. Kali Prasad, Reader in Philosophy, in a press statement, says:

"We hope to pave the way to an extensive scheme of educational reconstruction in the country. Whatever shape the future scheme takes, it will require a deep understanding of the school-going population —its abilities and disabilities. Such understanding must be based on a study of children through the technique of mental tests, laboratory experiments and clinical studies in psychology.

It is, moreover, necessary to estimate from an early stage the scholastic and vocational abilities of individual students, so that they may be rightly guided in the choice of their respective vocations. It is by these and such methods that necessary reforms may be introduced in the educational procedure of our country.

The classes will be held in the evenings and only trained graduates are eligible for admission."

BENGAL EDUCATION BILL

Mr. Jatindranath Chukerbutty, M.L.A. (Bengal), has tendered to the Chief Minister the resignation of his office of Parliamentary Secretary to the Government of Bengal as well as his membership of the Ministeralist Coalition Party. The resignation has been sent in on the issue of the Bengal Secondary Education Bill.

In his letter to the Chief Minister, Mr. Chukerbutty says, that "after the most careful consideration, I have come to the conclusion that it is no longer possible for me to support your Ministry in view of the feeling prevailing in the Hindu community against the Secondary Education Bill."

It may be recalled that Mr. Atul Chandra Kumar, another Parliamentary Secretary to the Bengal Government, resigned his office recently. The immediate issue on which his resignation was tendered was also the Secondary Education Bill.

Legal

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BIG BRIBERY CASES

The observation that it was strange to think that cases were brought in respect of relatively small bribes when the town was full of stories of big bribes which went unpunished was made by the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court delivering judgment in a rule obtained by a petitioner who had been convicted of attempted bribery by the Chief Presidency Magistrate Calcutta and sentenced to six months rigorous imprisonment

The Chief Justice and Mr Justice Lodge discharged the rule A bottle of whisky stated to have figured as part of the bribe was directed to be sent to the Chief Medical Officer British Military Hospital Calcutta

The petitioner Ganendra Nath Roy was the representative of a firm which had a contract to supply the Government with 16 000 canvas buckets The buckets were delivered in Calcutta and 10 005 were rejected It was stated that the petitioner offered Conductor Brown of the department concerned Rs 25 and a bottle of whisky to get the buckets accepted He was ordered to go out of the office and eventually arrested and charged with these offences

SIR C P ON PRIVY COUNCIL APPEALS

The view that there is no longer any justification for the continuance in far away England of the present day jurisd ction of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council was expressed in an address sent by Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar Dewan of Travancore and ex Law Member with the Government of Madras which was read at the All Ind a Law Conference organised by the *Law Union of the Osmania University* which was opened at Hyderabad on July 18 under the presidentship of S r Abdul Qadir

Few could deny the remarkable contribu tions made by great judges and jurists of England to the evolution of legal doctrine in India said Sir C P Ramaswami A yar but there are many persons both professional and otherwise who now demand that the ultimate decision of Indian cases civil and criminal should be vested in Indian tribunals

Referring to the establishment of the Federal Court Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar observed The Federal Court has come into being and both by its personnel and its output it has assumed a dominant place in Indian polity and bids fair to occupy a position in no way different from that of the Supreme Court of America not only as the expounder of the rights and obligations of the citizens and of administrative units but as the custodian and vigilant guardian of the Constitution

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar also referred to the condition of lawyers in India and said the steady increase in the number of practising lawyers the extremely unsatis factory relations that exist between seniors and juniors practising in each court or in each jurisdiction and the desperate struggle for maintenance amongst the members of the junior bar driving them out of sheer need to rash departures from professional standards were a phenomena to which they could not afford to turn blind

KUMBAKONAM BAR ASSOCIATION

The Golden Jubilee of the Bar Association was celebrated at the Porter Town Hall Kumbakonam under the presidentship of Mr T R Venkatarama Sastri He unveiled the portrait of the late Mr V Krishna Aiyar founder president of the Association

In the course of his speech Mr T R Venkatarama Sastriar observed that seniors should take greater interest in the welfare of the juniors most of whom were languish ing for want of support

Mr Sastri regretted the starting of a separate organisation in the name of Non Brahman lawyers This move he said was fraught with serious dangers to the future welfare of the profession It was a tragedy that at a time when they were trying to patch up the splits and schisms in the body politic of the country attempts should be made to create disharmony in the ranks of the foremost intellectual section of the community

Mr Sastri favoured the view of the late Chief Justice Sir Coutts Trotter who advocated lawyers suspending practice when they were in a mood to defy the law

TRADE BETWEEN U S AND INDIA

In the *Washington Times Herald* a correspondent writing under the heading Business with India says that before the war both Germany and Japan sold more to India than the United States and continues after the war both Japan and Germany will be out of world markets for some years to come

The British Empire will have difficulty in absorbing much more of India s business than she does now For one thing the Brit sh have a pretty huge reconstruction programme to carry out at home before they go plunging heavily of exports For another they have political difficulties to settle with India We have neither burden And India need not fear us politically We would not take it as a gift Now is the time to start planning improvement in trade with Ind a and not doze along until the fine day when business balance sheets show British lead on us even longer and clever Commissars of the U S S R are taking over the rest of trade that was once Germany s and Japan s

QUOTA OF INTERNATIONAL FUND

The International Monetary Conference just reached a final decision unanimously on the most controversial question surrounding the plans for the International Monetary Fund namely the allocation of the quota of contributions to over 8 800 million dollar monetary fund

Fifty per cent of the gold earmarked for the International Monetary Fund will be stored in the United States in accordance with this decision Forty per cent will be stored in the United Kingdom Russia China and France and the remaining 10 per cent will be allocated between other member States

The final result is as follows (in millions of dollars) —United States 2 750 United Kingdom 1 300 Soviet Russia 1 200 China 550 France 450 India 400 Belgium 225 Canada 800 Australia 200 Netherlands 275 Brazil 150 Czechoslovakia 125 South Africa 100

The total of the fund is 8 800 million dollars some 800 million dollars greater than total contemplated when the fund was first planned A number of countries have reserved the attitude of their Government including France who it is understood feel their quota should be greater The others making reservations were China Egypt India New Zealand Greece Iran and Netherlands

The other quota of allocations (in millions of dollars) include Iraq 8 Iran 25 Iceland 1 Greece 40 Ethiopia 6 Egypt 45 and Liberia half million

The United States have a quota greater than Soviet Russia and the United Kingdom combined the total of United Kingdom plus Dominion quotas is only some 800 millions short of the United States

INDIA S DEFENCE EXPENDITURE

India spent Rs 715 crores on her defence and supply during the five years 1939 40 to 1943 44 according to figures available here During the same period His Majesty s Government helped India with a sum of Rs 926 crores under the terms of the financial settlement concluded in September 1939 between the Government of India and His Majesty s Government regarding the allocation of defence expenditure between them The total defence and supply expenditure brought to account in India s books is thus Rs 1 641 crores

India s defence expenditure has increased from Rs 50 crores in 1939 40 to Rs 220 crores in 1943 44 while Great Britain s contribution has gone up from Rs 4 crores to Rs 345 crores during this five year period

India s total expenditure civil and military during the five years aggregated Rs 1 005 crores On the pre war scale (1938 39 expenditure) the total normal expenditure for the above five years should be Rs 426 crores This extra expenditure of Rs 579 crores should directly or indirectly be attributed to the war

India s total defence expenditure of Rs 715 crores represents an increase of Rs 481 crores over the normal civil administration accounts for an increase of Rs 17 crores Direct demands on revenue have not increased much at all

Women's Page

Mrs. PANDIT'S VISIT TO BARISAL

Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit was presented with several addresses of welcome at a public meeting in Barisal on July 21 Communists at Barisal exhibited bad taste and indulged in hooliganism when she rose to reply. This behaviour was highly resented by the audience. Mrs. Pandit refused to discuss politics with Communists

Commenting on the incident, Mrs Pandit said: "I have no grievance against those who resorted to this measure. I, however, like to point out that work is more effective than talk. The sufferings of Bengal have driven many people to the province with a desire to offer their services in some capacity. I am one of those who have come here with this purpose. This effort, though very small, has forged a link between me and the people of Bengal which cannot be easily broken and it is of little consequence whether I talk or not."

In an interview, on her return to Calcutta, Mrs. Pandit emphasised the need for co ordinating the work of the different relief organisations. She had found a large number of destitutes in emergency hospitals and relief centres. As the aftermath of the famine was present all over the country, she could not agree that famine conditions were now over.

WOMEN AT PEACE CONFERENCE

"I was proud," says Mrs. Roosevelt, wife of the President of the U S A., "that our nation had women present at the Food Conference, and was glad that on our dele gation at the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Conference we had not only women delegates but several women as observers. The observers were women with interests in special fields, they brought up points which otherwise would not have been given adequate consideration. I hope that, as more conferences are called, we will see an increasing number of women take their places with men.

I can remember when women first began to be a factor in politics in this country (U.S.A) when it was generally said that "politics is no place for women." Men took off their coats and smoked big black cigars and put their feet on the tables and drank liquor and insisted that their political gatherings would offend the ladies. (The ladies seem to be surviving, however!)

Perhaps women haven't accomplished all they might have in politics, but there is a good deal more social legislation than there ever was before women had the vote. When a question comes up which really arouses the women of this country, believe me, men know that women are now a real factor in politics. . . .

My plea is not for women at a peace conference only. It is for women in every meeting which deals with post-war problems more women among our State legislators, in our city governments; more women in Congress; more women in high appointive positions of responsibility. They will not be there to oppose men, but to work with men, to have a share in shaping the new world which, whether we want it or not, is going to confront us some day."

WELSH WOMEN'S PLEA FOR INDIA

A petition in Welsh, bearing thousands of signatures of women, urging the resumption of negotiations with Indian leaders, has been presented to the House of Commons. The House had to solve a delicate problem. A petition in Welsh had not been presented for a number of years. However, it was established that the petition could be accepted, if accompanied by an attested English translation. Mr. Clement Davis, President of the India Relief Fund, who presented the petition, translated it and it was accepted.

WOMEN AS JURORS

Among the persons summoned to serve as jurors at the third criminal sessions of the Bombay High Court, which began recently, were about 15 women. This was the first time in India that women made their appearance in court to serve as jurors The High Court rules were recently amended to make it possible for women to be enrolled as jurors. Since then, about 80 women have volunteered services and have been put on the roll of persons liable to be called as jurors.

Literary

SIND JOURNALISTS CONFERENCE

That the power of the Press was unlimited that there was no limit to the amount of good or harm which it could do to society and that therefore journalists should take care to see that their work resulted in human good alone was the view expressed by Mr S A Brelvi when he opened the Sind Journalists Conference which met in Karachi on July 9

After referring to the conditions of working journalists and the agreements between the Editors Conference and the Government of India he criticized the new Paper Control (Economy) Order and declared that there was no justification for such an order without consultation with the interests concerned He hopes that as a result of a meeting to be held between representatives of the Press and the Government the Order would be modified

Concluding he said School and university education is no doubt an asset in the making of a journalistic career but no school or university can create a journalist The best school for journalists is journalism alone and we must jealously guard the standards and conventions of high journalism and these must be maintained as high as possible

PERIODICALS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Messrs K N Chatterjee Editor *Modern Review* and P R Srinivas Editor *Indian Finance* have issued the following statement We convened a meeting of representatives of periodicals to consider the Newspaper Control Order The general sense of the representatives present at the meeting was that this Order revealed certain important divergences of interest between the daily papers on the one hand and the periodical Press on the other and that an All India Association for periodicals must be formed for the safeguarding and strengthening of their special interests We now wish to announce that it is proposed to form the Periodicals Press Association of India and request that periodicals wishing to join the Association may kindly communicate to Mr P R Srinivas 116 Lower Circular Road Calcutta

Personal

DR PREM S PLANS

Though a member of the Common Wealth Party Dr Prem who proposes to oppose the Secretary of State whoever he may be at the next general election to Parliament does not propose to stand on the Party ticket If I do that it will become a Party issue and the Indian question which I want to keep at the front of the campaign may be submerged beneath domestic issues If I stand as an Independent I may get the support of all progressive parties

H H AGA KHAN

H H the Aga Khan who has been living in Switzerland in comparative seclusion during the past four years in a special interview with Reuter gave this message to the people of India

I have full confidence that the British people will deal justly with such Indian wishes and claims which have general support from Indian opinion irrespective of faith and race

Despite his stay in Switzerland the Aga Khan is in constant touch by cable with his followers in India and Africa on matters connected with religious and social interest

LATE MR C RAMASWAMI IYENGAR

A statue of the late Mr C Ramaswami Iyengar founder of the Sri Ramakrishna Mission Students Home Mylapore was unveiled by Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar on July 4 on the Home grounds before a large gathering of citizens of Madras

The statue made in bronze at a cost of about Rs 8 500 is the work of the late Mr M S Nagappa who just completed it before his death

MR B G HORNIMAN

A Committee consisting of nearly 50 persons including Mr Nagindas T Master (Mayor of Bombay) Sir Shantidas Askuran (Sheriff of Bombay) Sir Rahimtoola Chinoy Mr K M Munshi Mr Pranlal Devkaran Nanjee Mr. Samaldas Gandhi Mr Robert Stimson Mr S Sadanand and Mr A S Bharatan has been formed to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Mr B G Horniman's journalistic career

INDIAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC IN NEW YORK

An Indian School of Music has been founded in New York recently by Wasantha Wara Singh and has for its chief aim the development in America a better understanding of Indian Music and the furtherance of international amity through a cultural medium. The school is an outgrowth of the studio where Singh has been instructing Americans in Indian Music. Singh has been in America since 1909. He has made an album of records "Echoes of India." Together with Dr. Arthur P. Moore of Adelphi College, Long Island, he selected and wrote the material for a group of records, for Walter Toscanini, son of the famous conductor Arturo Toscanini to further Indian music. He has a constant round of music engagements in New York. Born in 1895 of Punjabi parents who had migrated to Ceylon, he was attracted by an American "Wild West" show in 1903 and joined it and went to America. At first an actor and dancer, he abandoned these callings for music.

ENTERTAINING INDIAN TROOPS

A new scheme to provide entertainment to Indian troops at a cost of Rs. 21 lakhs a year has been launched under the auspices of an Indian organisation at General Headquarters called the Fauji Dilkhush Sabha. Under this scheme, it is expected to raise 20 concert parties in the immediate future to tour India and overseas.

Seventeen Indian concert parties staging regular programmes of music, dancing and drama in the various Armies and Commands in India and overseas have been organised in the last two years at an expenditure of Rs. 5,40,000, excluding travelling expenses.

SOVIET PAINTINGS EXHIBITED

An exhibition of posters and pictures depicting the defence of Moscow, Nazi atrocities on Soviet soil, the economic development of the U.S.S.R., works of famous Soviet artists, and the growth and development of music, cinema and the theatre opened at the New Delhi Town Hall last month under the auspices of the Friends of the Soviet Union.

Sport

NEXT INDIAN OLYMPIC SPORTS

The importance of physical training in the educational system of the country was stressed by Mr. J. Appaji Gowda Minister, for Education, presiding over the 15th anniversary celebrations of the Y.M.C.A. Summer School of Physical Education, held at Bangalore.

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These investigations reveal that the diamond is not a single chemical individual or a giant molecule as has hitherto been supposed Theoretical considerations based on the geometry of the carbon atom and of the crystals formed by their union indicate that there should be four kinds of diamonds possibly the difference between them being either purely geometrical or both geometrical and physical The recognition of this fact enables many remarkable and hitherto ill understood properties of the diamond to be satisfac torily interpreted and explained

Direct experimental evidence for the existence of four kinds of diamonds is also forthcoming Any actual diamond usually consists of a mixture on a coarse or fine scale of two or more of the theoretically possible varieties This gives rise to observable variations in the physical properties of the diamond as for instance the colour and brightness of the visible light emitted by it under the ultra violet lamp its transparency in various regions of the spectrum and the strength with which it reflects X rays Variations of these properties can appear even within an individual specimen and are observed and recorded as luminescence patterns and X ray photographs of the diamond The striking resemblances and equally striking differences between these different kinds of patterns form a very interesting study and numerous examples of them illustrate the volume

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Film World

DANCES OF INDIA

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All these we find here rendered with grace and ease by Kumari Indrani and S r i m a t i Shanta both disciples of Pandanullur Meenakshisundaram Pillai Kumari Indrani greatly excels in her Tillana recital Srimati Shanta endowed with a striking personality renders some of the most beautiful adavus' of her art ending up with Thirmana

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WAR PRISONERS FILMS

Plans have been made to provide a hundred film programmes this year for Allied prisoners in Germany under a recent agreement by which our men are being sent English and American films and German prisoners in the United Kingdom with see German made productions

Several programmes have already gone to Germany from Sweden and Switzerland and German pictures have already arrived

Art and Drama

INDIAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC IN NEW YORK

An Indian School of Music has been founded in New York recently by Wasantha Wara Singh and has for its chief aim the development in America a better understanding of Indian Music and the furtherance of international amity through a cultural medium. The school is an outgrowth of the studio where Singh has been instructing Americans in Indian Music. Singh has been in America since 1909. He has made an album of records "Echoes of India." Together with Dr. Arthur P. Moore of Adelphi College, Long Island, he selected and wrote the material for a group of records, for Walter Toscanini, son of the famous conductor Arturo Toscanini to further Indian music. He has a constant round of music engagements in New York. Born in 1895 of Punjabi parents who had migrated to Ceylon, he was attracted by an American "Wild West" show in 1909 and joined it and went to America. At first an actor and dancer, he abandoned these callings for music.

ENTERTAINING INDIAN TROOPS

A new scheme to provide entertainment to Indian troops at a cost of Rs. 24 lakhs a year has been launched under the auspices of an Indian organisation at General Headquarters called the Fauji Dilkhush Sabha. Under this scheme, it is expected to raise 20 concert parties in the immediate future to tour India and overseas.

Seventeen Indian concert parties staging regular programmes of music, dancing and drama in the various Armies and Commands in India and overseas have been organised in the last two years at an expenditure of Rs. 5,40 000, excluding travelling expenses.

SOVIET PAINTINGS EXHIBITED

An exhibition of posters and pictures depicting the defence of Moscow, Nazi atrocities on Soviet soil, the economic development of the U.S.S.R., works of famous Soviet artists, and the growth and development of music, cinema and the theatre opened at the New Delhi Town Hall last month under the auspices of the Friends of the Soviet Union.

Sport

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Automobiles

PLANT FOR MAKING CARS AND PLANES

India after the war will have one of the biggest workshops of the world for the manufacture of motor cars, aeroplanes and different kinds of machinery with an authorised capital of Rs. 50 crores. Seth Ram Krishna Dalmia, a well-known industrialist of India, who went to Simla for discussing the development of post-war industry in India, stated in an interview, that he was arranging the establishment of a workshop on an unprecedented scale in the country equal to that found in America and Europe. It would be located on one of the country's biggest ports, where the requisite land was available.

He would be able, he said, to manufacture the cheapest and finest kind of machinery, motor cars, aeroplanes and other equipment urgently required in large quantities for the existing important industries of the country with an authorised capital of Rs. 50 crores. He felt that inviting subscriptions was not desirable, and it would not be much profitable for the public to invest at this time. Accordingly all the necessary funds would be spent by him for the time being. Preliminary arrangements were on hand and it was expected that the workshop would be ready at an early date after the war.

MOTOR INDUSTRY PLAN

The project of launching a motor industry in India has to be delayed until better conditions prevail. Though a company has been registered, the control on the construction of new buildings, the non-availability of plants and other equipment essential for starting the industry causes the delay.

The company is working under the name of Premier Automobiles, Ltd., with an authorised capital of Rs. 10,00,00,000. The industry will be started in Bombay because of transport facilities and the nearness to raw materials. In addition, the location of the industry in Bombay will facilitate the availability of a free market for skilled labour and also will make the problem of housing easier.

The Government of India have sanctioned the raising of a share capital of Rs 2,25,00 000. Mr. Walchand Hirachand is the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Aviation

POST-WAR CIVIL AIR TRANSPORT

Further details of the Government of India's plans for post-war civil air transport were disclosed in the last session of the Assembly. These details were given at a press conference by Sir Mahomed Usman, Member for Post and Air Transport. These details are incorporated in a memorandum prepared by the Government and this, he said, will be placed before the Post-War Reconstruction Policy Committee. These plans provide for a net-work of air ports in important centres in India.

Three categories of air services are contemplated: they are the international Air Service linking India with important Capitals in foreign countries, an Indian trunk air service and essential lines between the Indian trunk air services. The plans comtemplate the introduction of daily air service and the estimated annual milage would be more than five times that before the war. The memorandum suggests that development of local air services should be left to local private enterprises, the Government assisting them with necessary ground organisation. The capital cost for the fleet of planes necessary is estimated at 1½ crores of rupees.

Sir M. Usman told the Press Conference that the Government were preparing a further memorandum on the development of aerodromes and auxiliary services and this will also be placed before the Policy Committee.

NEW PLANE REPAIR SHOP FOR BENGAL

One of the biggest aeroplane engine overhaul plants in the world and the largest in the China-Burma-India theatre of war has been opened at an Air Service Command (U.S A.A.F.) depot in Bengal.

The new plant will mean a great saving of time for the U.S.A A.F. for major repairs to plane engines, which formerly had to be sent all the way to America, can now be carried out in India

In the building housing the plants are reconditioned the giant engines of B 29 bombers—the Superfortresses which have already struck twice at the Japanese mainland.

AN ALL-INDIA HANDLOOM BOARD

We understand that the decision was arrived at at a meeting recently held of representatives of the Government of India members of the Handloom Committee of the Textile Control Board and representatives of Provincial and State Governments to constitute an All India Handloom Board The main functions of the proposed Board will be to recommend to the Government of India what proportion of the yarn available from Indian production should be supplied to each Province and State interested in obtaining yarn for handloom weaving to assist handloom weavers through recognised associations or Provincial or State authorities in obtaining dyes chemicals stores etc at fair prices to consider the best means of marketing Indian handloom products and to direct research and consider measures to improve production It is suggested that the Textile Commissioner should be the Chairman of the Board

TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY

The net profits of the Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited for the year ended March 31 1944 after providing for income tax super tax and excess profits tax and after setting aside a sum of Rs 1,20 00 000 for depreciation amounted to Rs 2 86 29 145 With the amount brought forward from last year s account Rs. 9 13 102 and income tax deducted from dividends on Preference Shares (1942 43) Rs. 14 72 803 the total amount available was Rs. 3 10 41 5,0 out of which the Directors have transferred to the Reserve Fund Rs 57 00 000 being the approximate amount required for compulsory E P T deposit leaving a balance of Rs 2 53 41 550

The Directors have determined to dispose of this amount as follows to shareholders (1) A dividend of Rs 9 per share on First Preference Shares Rs 4 50 000 (2) A dividend of Rs 7 8 0 per share on Second Preference Shares Rs 52 03 642 (3) A dividend of Rs 23 per share on Ordinary Shares Rs 80 50 000 (4) A dividend of Rs. 129 8 9 per share on Deferred Shares Rs 63 1, 62, bonus to employees under Profit Sharing Scheme Rs 44 67 738 Carry forward Rs 8 57 545

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE

A plan for the development of agriculture and animal husbandry in India involving a capital outlay of Rs 1 000 crores is suggested in a memorandum prepared for the consideration of the Advisory Board of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research The plan has been prepared by a Special Committee and has the immediate object of increasing production by 50 per cent in the next ten years and by 100 per cent in the next 15 years

Besides capital expenditure the plan provides for a recurring annual expenditure of Rs 20 crores an average total expenditure of nine annas per acre yearly when all the cultivable areas have been brought under cultivation The plan aims at securing an output of the right kind for every individual and improving his standard of living

LOW INDIAN RICE YIELD

The U S Department of Agriculture according to a Washington report says that Indian rice yields generally are low compared with other countries The pre war Indian average was only 28 bushels per acre compared with 123 bushels in Spain (which claims to be the world s highest rice yield) and 48 bushels per acre in the U S

The Department observes that Indian agricultural experts are of opinion that yields could be increased substantially by applying ammonium sulphate which can be produced in India at half the cost of imported fertilisers

SEED FOR BENGAL RYOTS

As a measure of relief to the poorer agriculturists of the province particularly in the deficit areas who have eaten up their stocks of seeds the Government of Bengal have directed district officers to advance loans to these agriculturists in order to enable them to buy *aus* seeds in good time for the next sowing District officers have also been directed to help such agriculturists by procuring seeds for them through trade channels or by requisitioning seed stocks of bigger agriculturists as far as possible

Labour

BETTER CONDITIONS FOR WORKERS

Mr. Walter Nash, Chairman of the International Labour Office Conference held at Philadelphia, said that there will be new world wars, larger, longer and worse than the present one, unless leading nations took steps to improve the conditions of working people throughout the world.

"You cannot have peace with hunger and privation" Mr. Nash said, and added that the next step to better relations with workers was for the United States, United Kingdom and others to find a way to meet the workers of Russia Beyond that he thought one most important step was for increased organisation of the workers in China and India. He said that the practice of capitalists of going to China and other cheap labour markets to produce goods for sale in high priced markets "can't last if we want to avoid wars."

Mr. Nash cited the report that the average expectation of life in India was only 27 years compared with 64 in the United States and 67 in New Zealand. "No lasting peace can be written even by the strongest nations combined—the United States, Britain and Russia—as long as the ratio of 27 to 67 exists."

WORKERS' GROUP MANIFESTO

The workers' group at Washington issued the following May Day manifesto "Winning the war is not the only concern of workers in the world, for whom military victory is only a means to achieve the real end. This gigantic struggle is for the salvation of mankind. A better world must be built wherein, all men and women will find the fullest opportunity to live a free, secure and dignified life The very objective of the I.L.O. is to create the basis for that better world for which so many million soldiers and civilians are offering their lives. This lends exceptional significance in the traditional May Day celebration. . . . Workers and responsible representatives assembled in Philadelphia are fighting the hardest for the realization of the very ideals and aspirations for which workers 55 years ago demonstrated May Days: there is more freedom, more social justice, more happiness for common men and women in to morrow's world".

General

MADRASIS IN WAR SERVICE

Since the outbreak of war, no less than 322,479 men of the "non-technical" class have joined the armed forces from Madras Presidency and the Indian States of Travancore, Cochin, Pudukottah and Banganapalle.

The district with the highest record of volunteers is North Arcot which has produced 11 per cent. of the number. Second comes Malabar district followed closely by Tinnevelly district and the States of Travancore and Cochin.

"Non-technical" recruits are those who join the forces without any previous training in the job they propose to undertake in the army.

Most of the men are now trained personnel in Madras Infantry, Engineer or Artillery units or have joined the Indian Signal Corps, I.A.M.C. or R.I.A.S.C. Of the total, approximately ten per cent. have been recruited for the Pioneer Corps, while regiments such as the Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners and the 3rd Madras Regiment attract large numbers of men.

MONTGOMERY'S MAXIMS

General Montgomery's recipe for generalship is simple. According to Mr. Hanson Baldwin, it is:—

1. Have a good Chief of Staff.
2. Go for simplicity in everything.
3. Cut out all paper and train subordinates to work on verbal instructions and orders.
4. Keep a firm grip on basic fundamentals—the things that really matter.
5. Avoid being involved in details; leave them to your staff.
6. Study morale; it is a big thing in war and without high morale you can achieve nothing.
7. When the issue hangs in the balance, express confidence in the plans and in the operations, even if inwardly you feel not too certain of the outcome.
8. Never worry.
9. Never belly ache.

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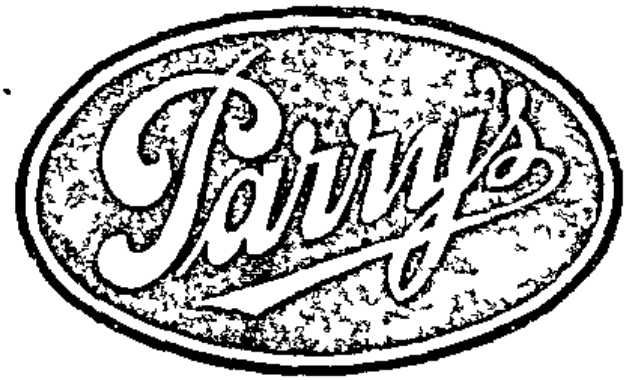
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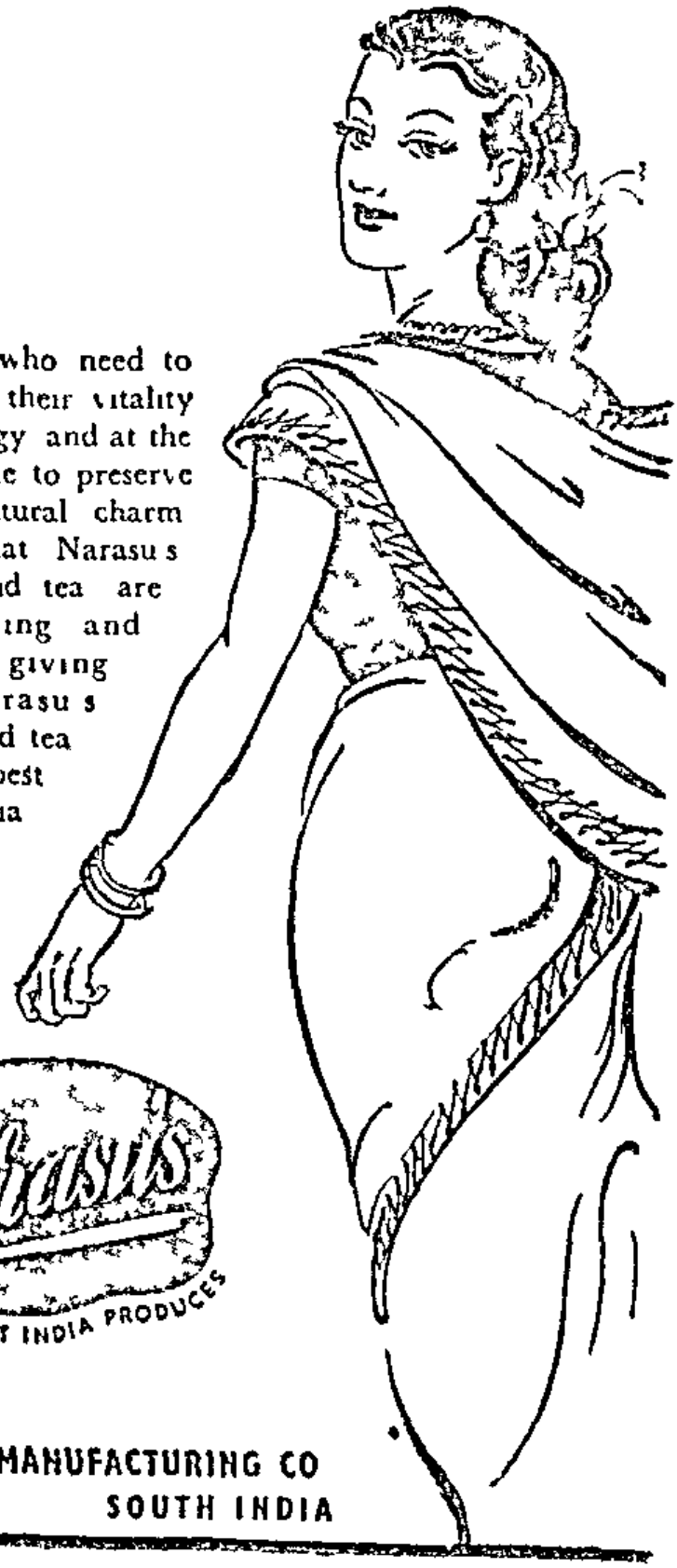
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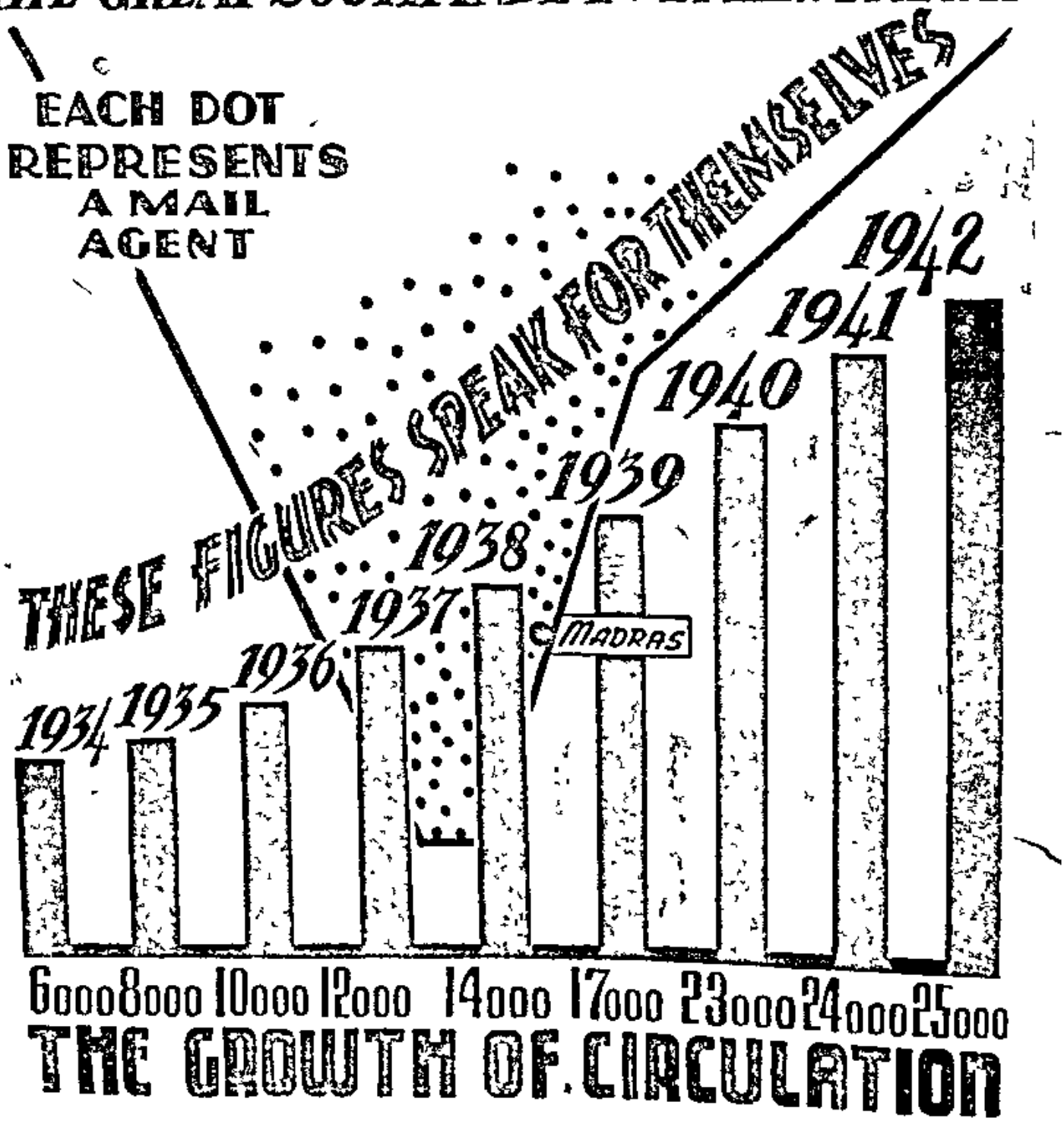
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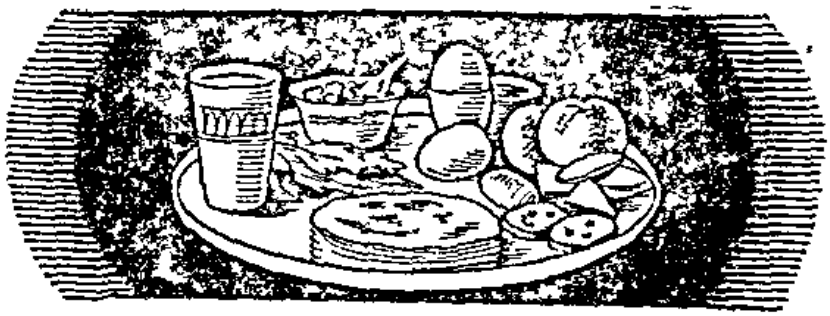
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let the day of Blessing be a Blessing to the Poor

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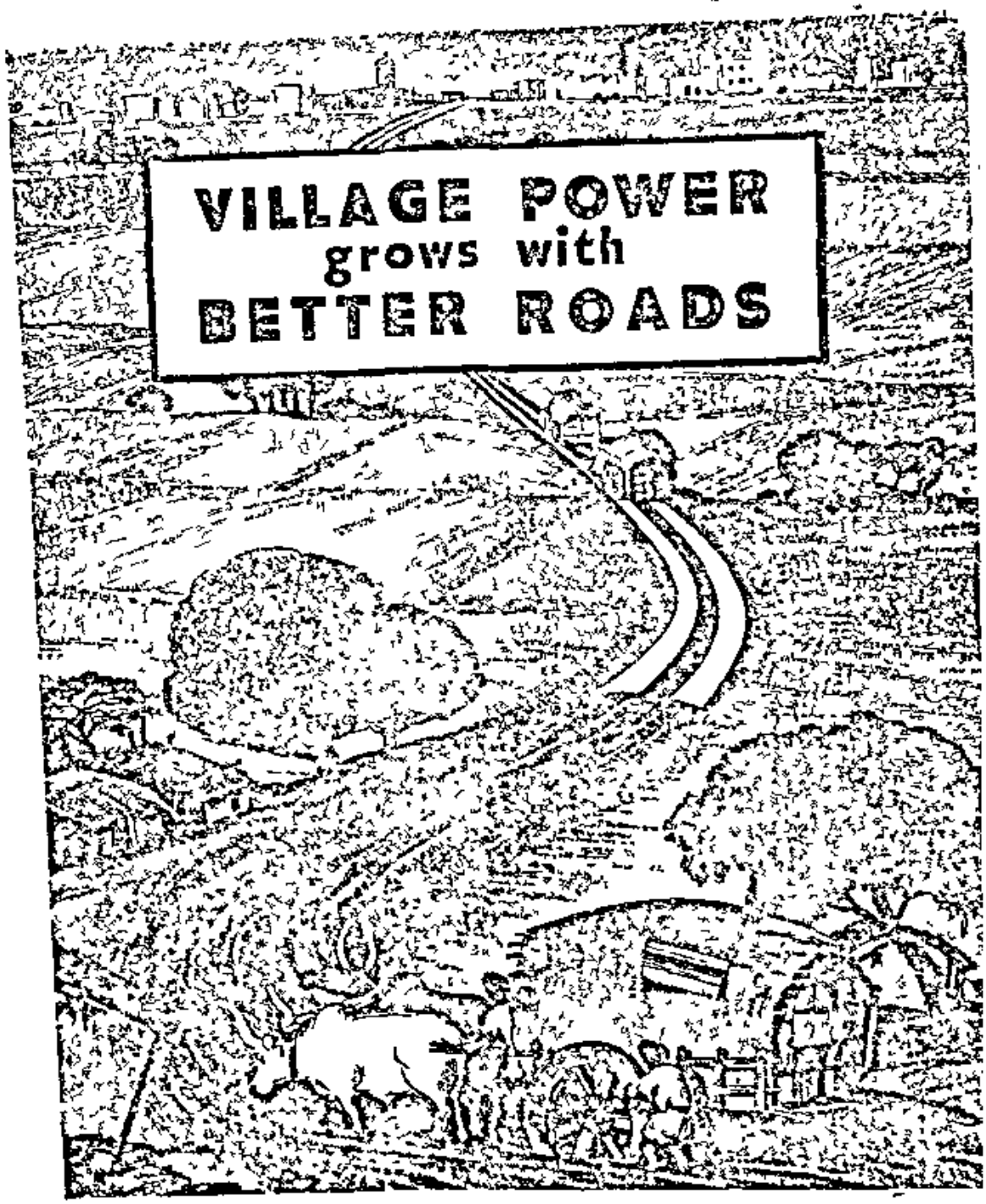


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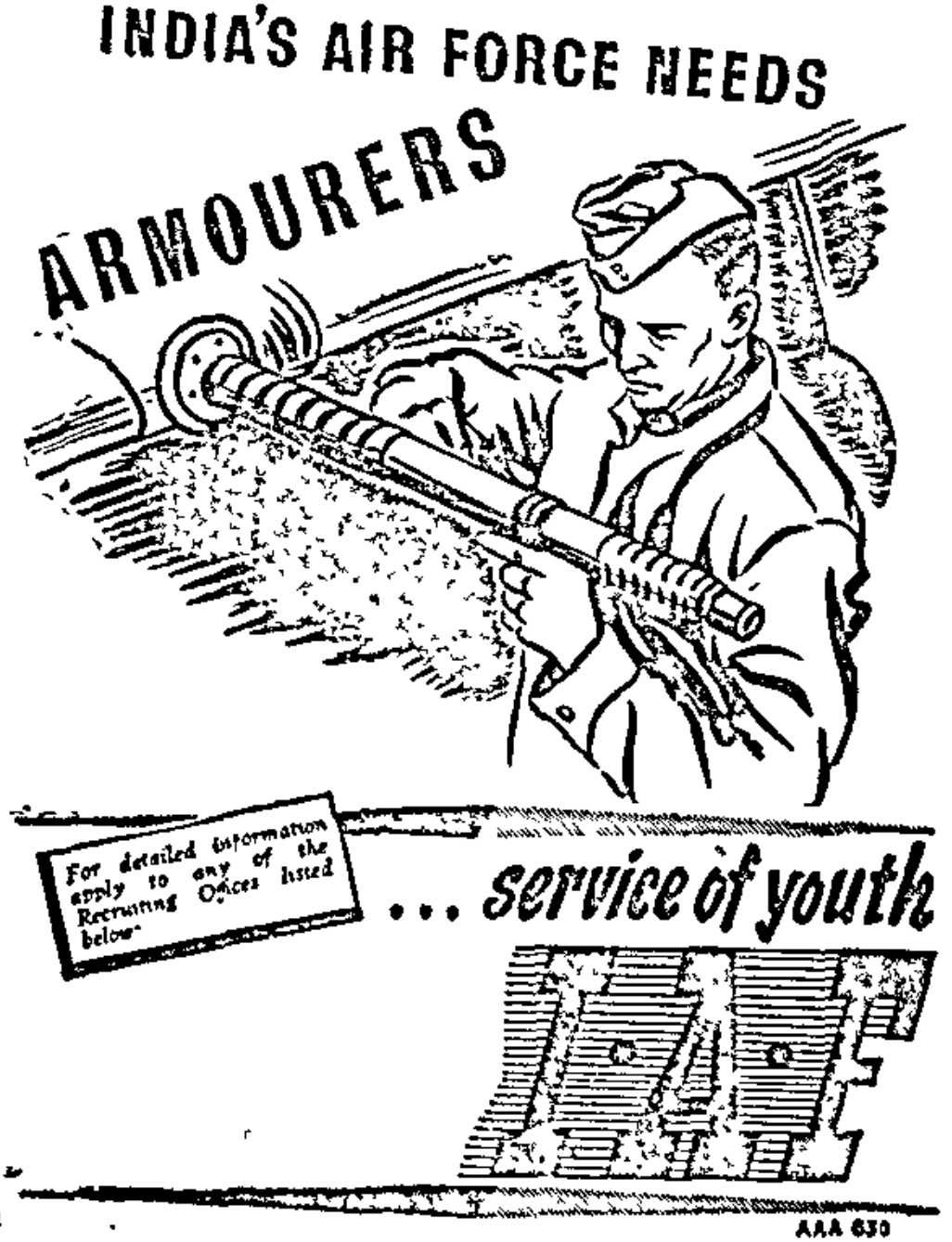
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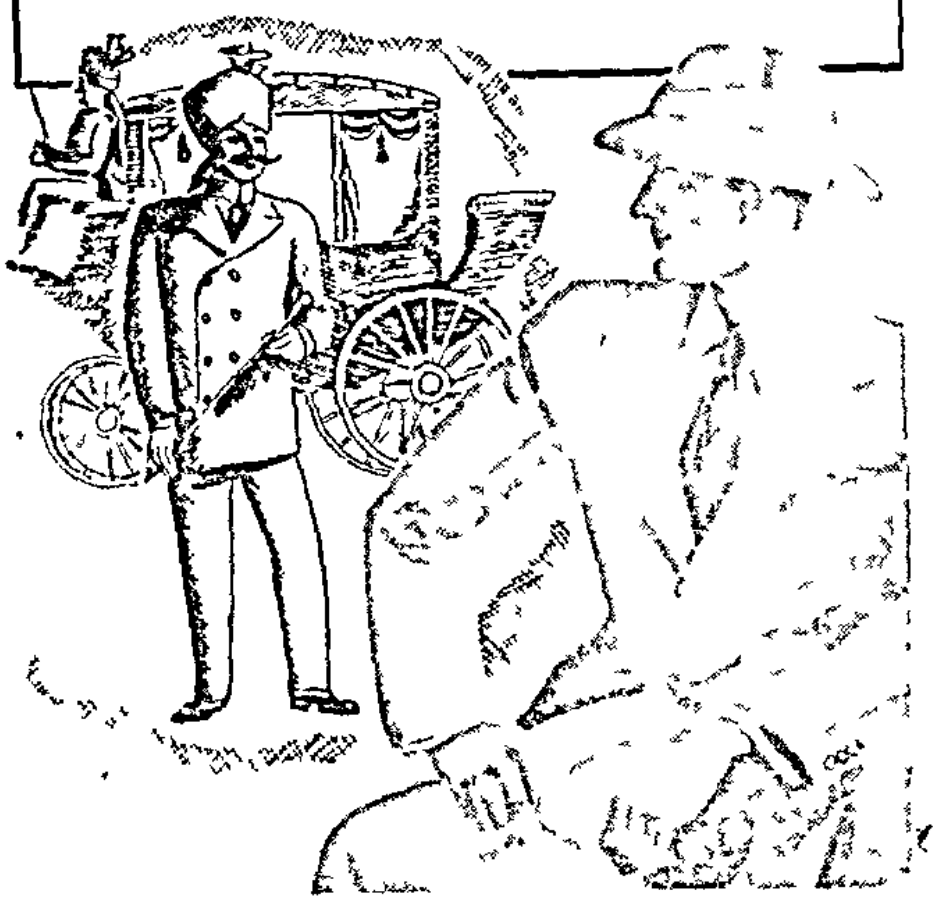


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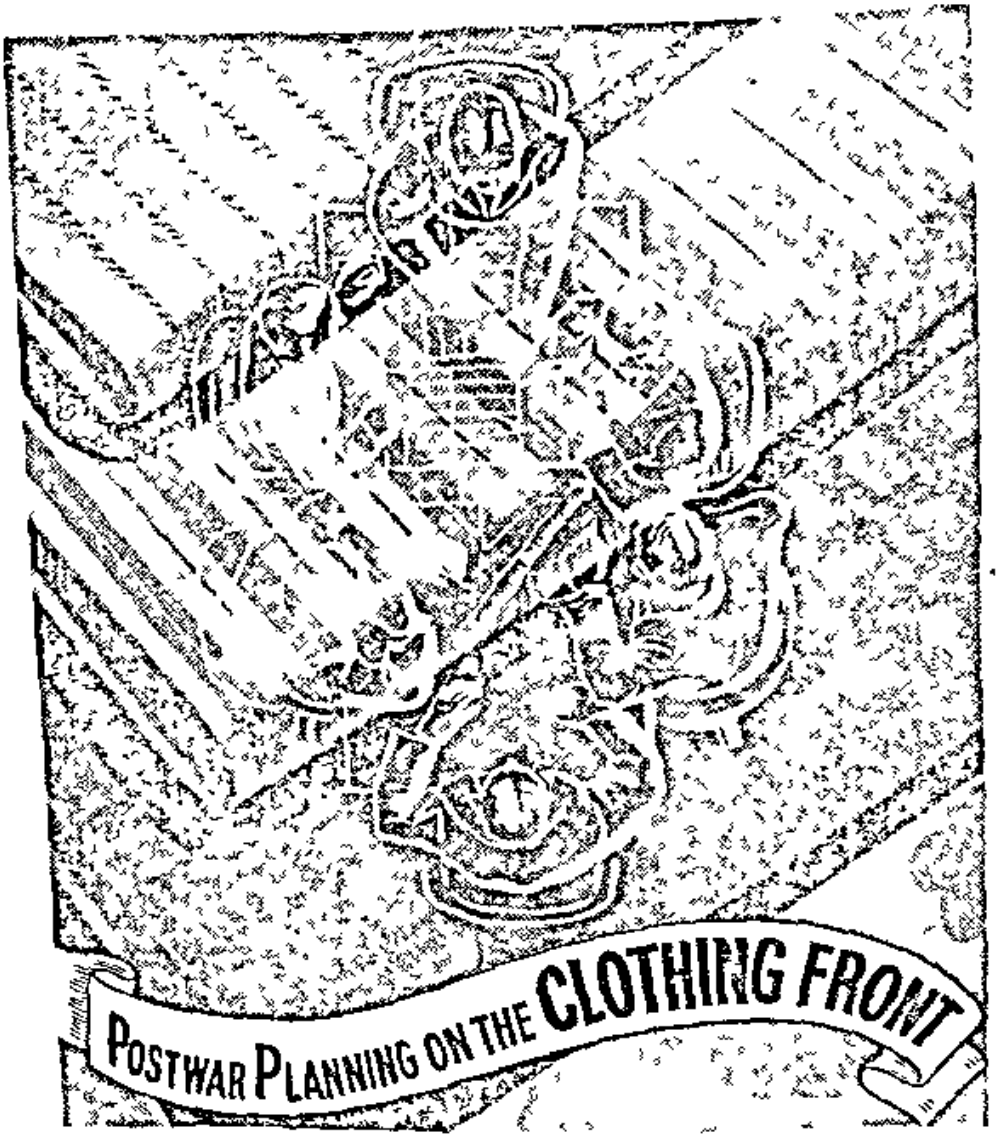
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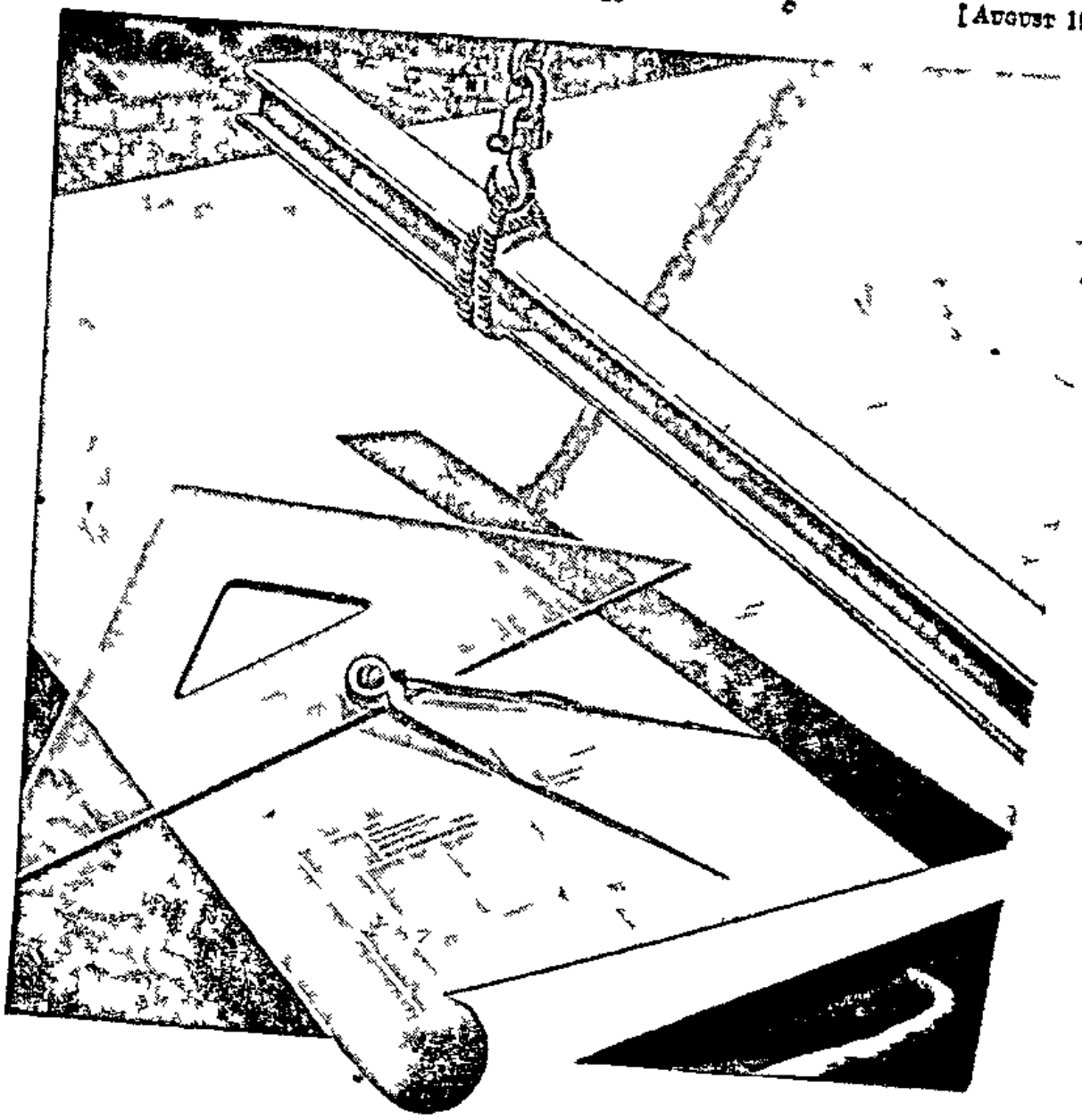
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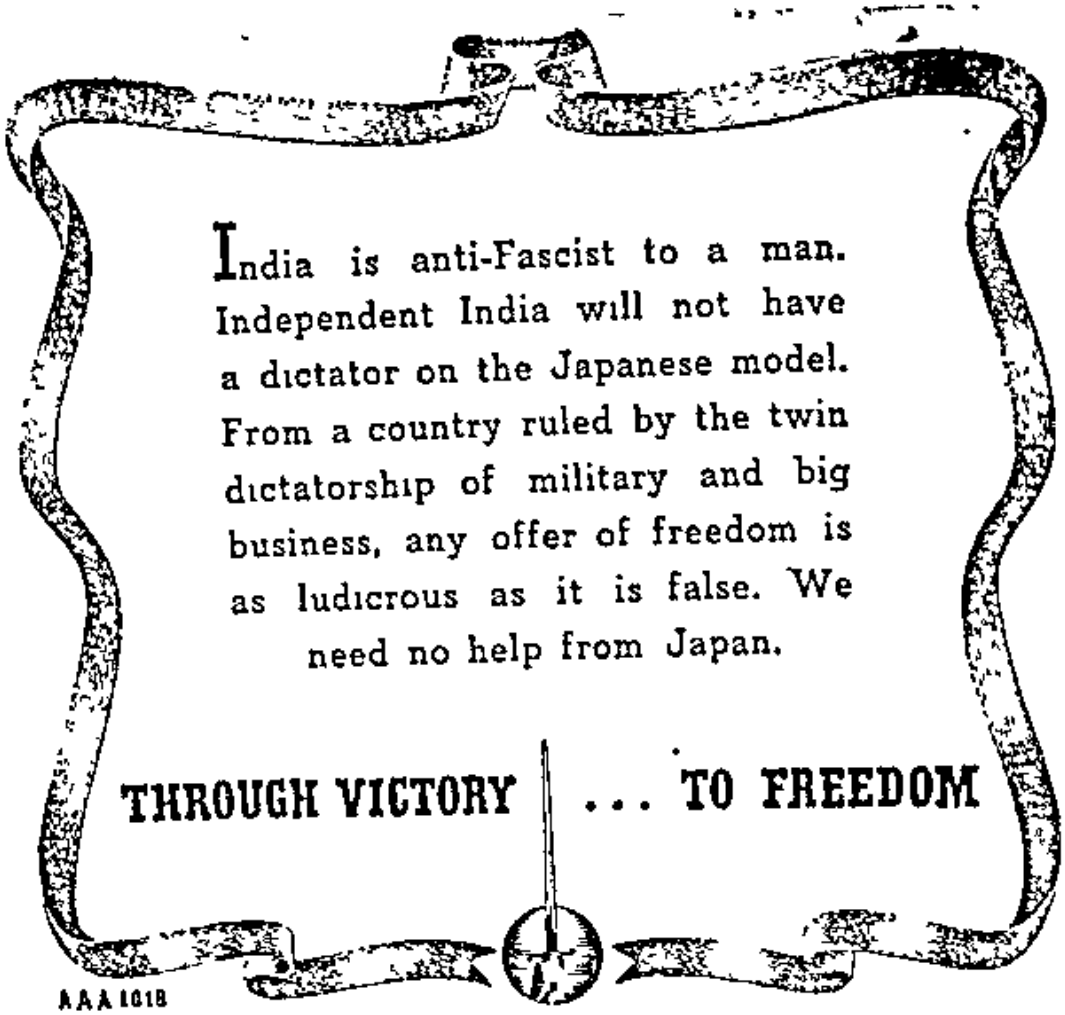
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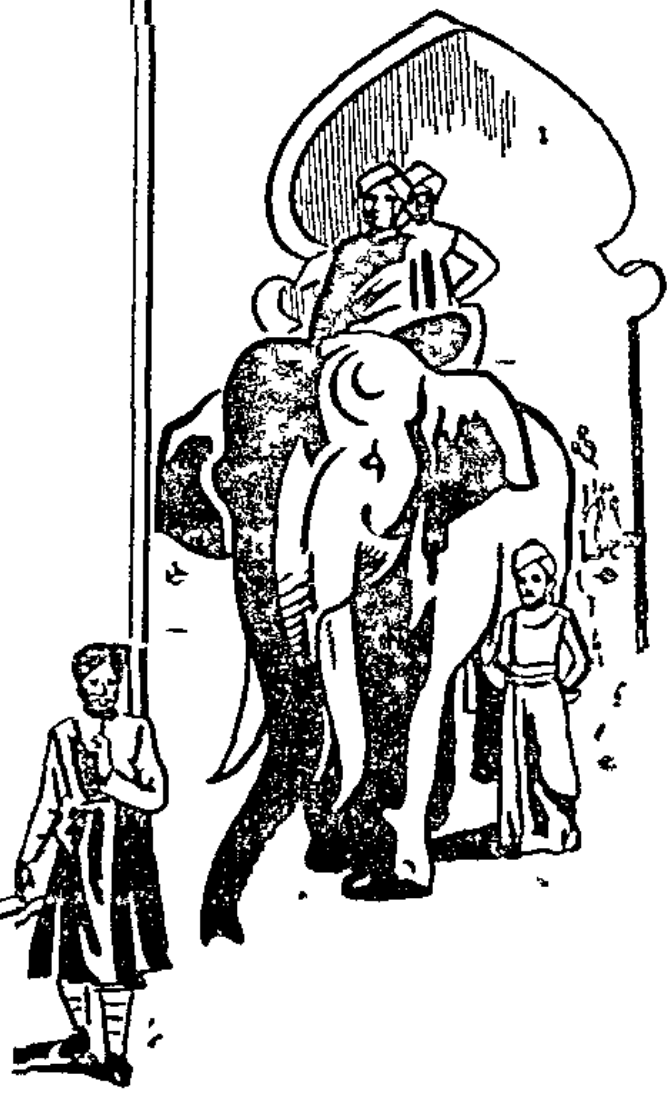
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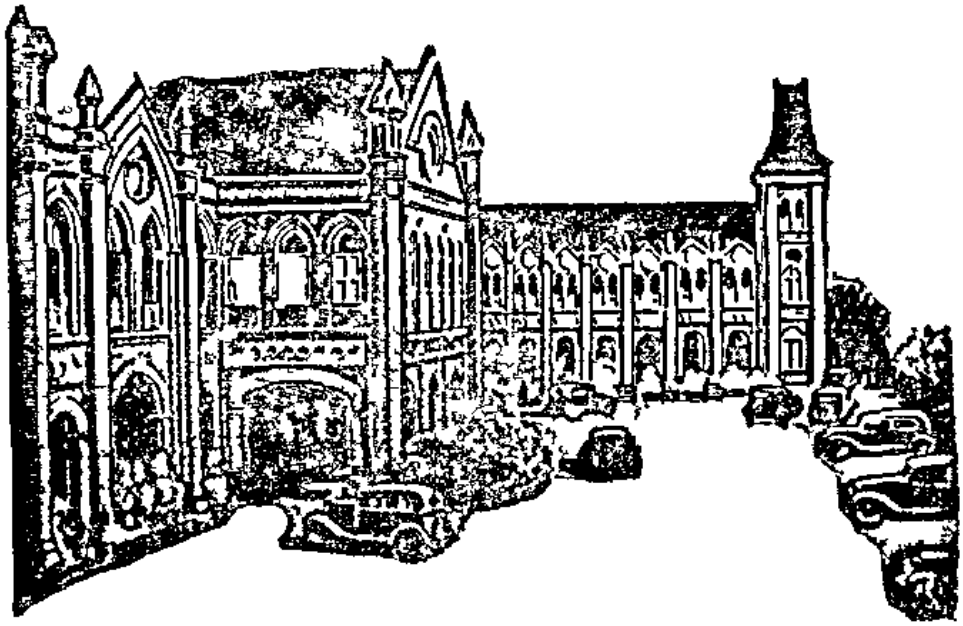
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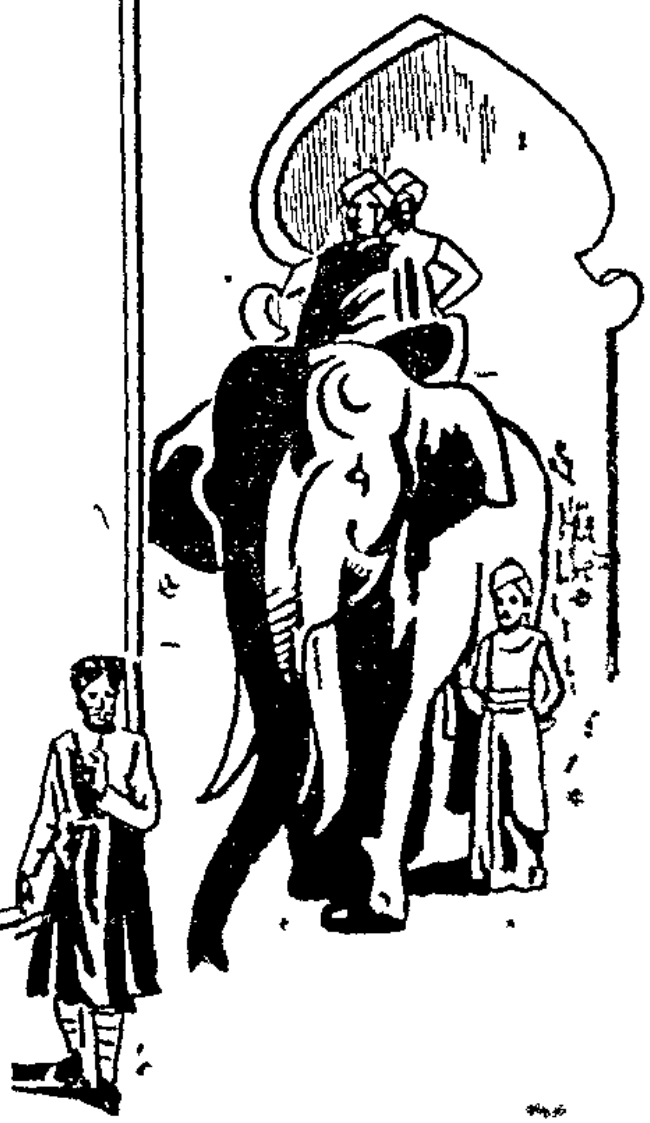
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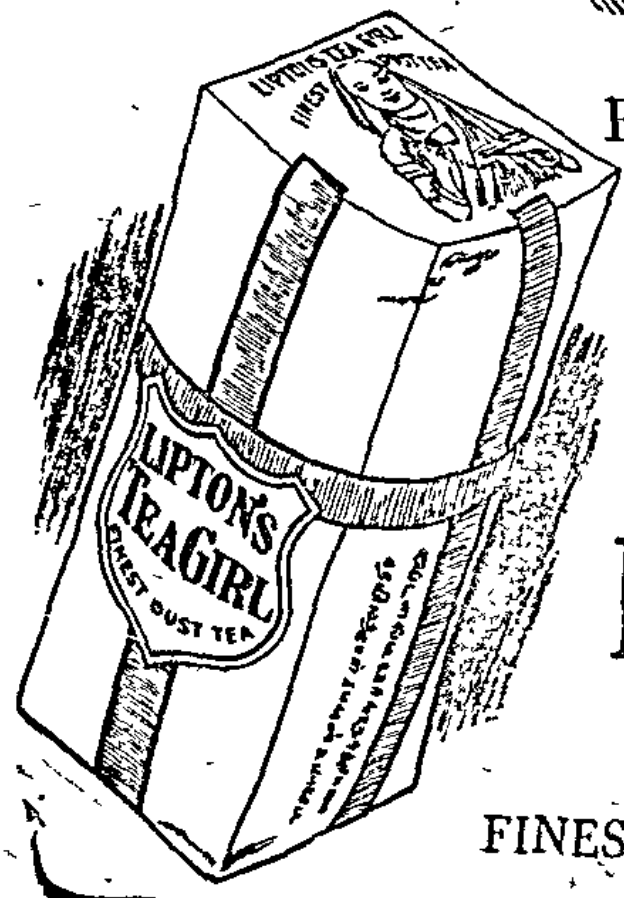
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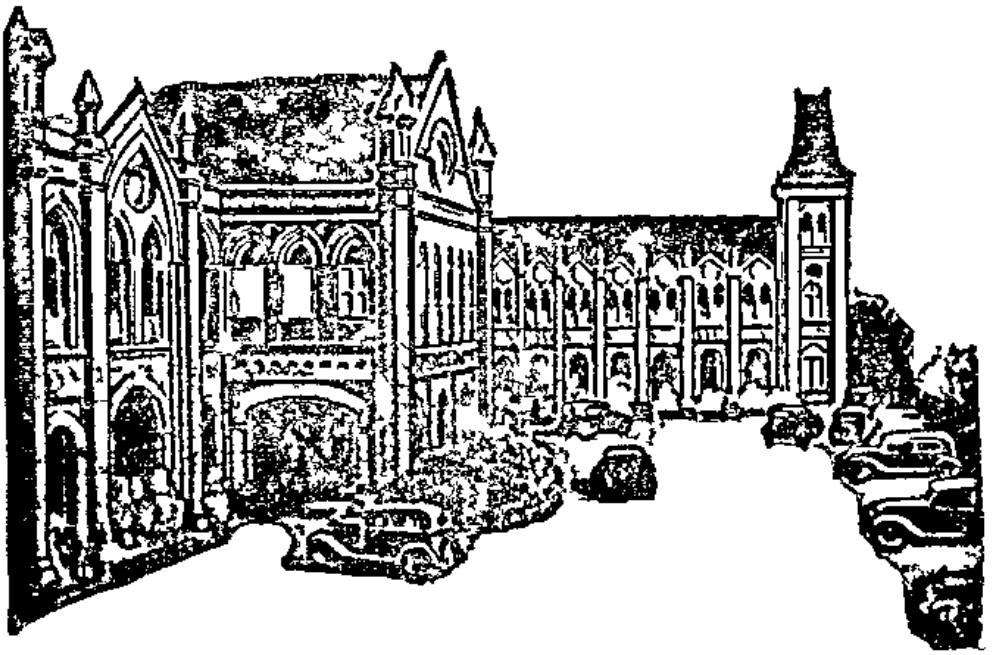
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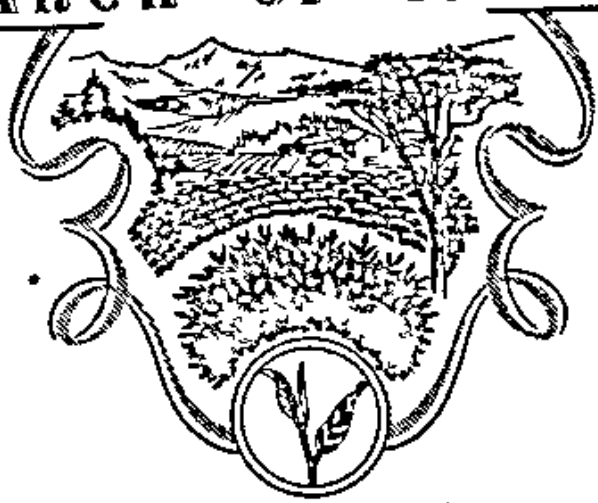
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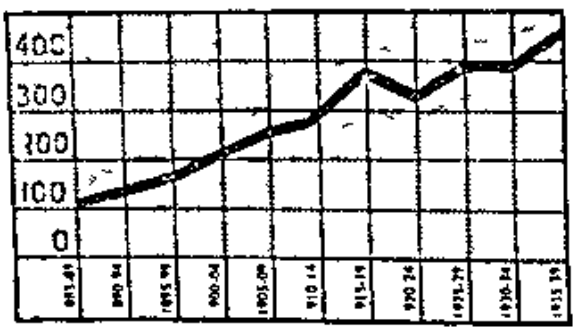
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL TOPICS OF INTEREST

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.] SEPTEMBER 1944 [No. 9.

BRITAIN AND HER DOMINIONS

By Prof HARI CHARAN MUKERJI, M A

—o—

THE outbreak of the present war demonstrated beyond any doubt the strong attachment binding the dominions with the mother country It was so during the last Great War too The help which has been rendered to the mother country has come spontaneously and has been of the most considerable nature both in men and money and materials and among all these dominions Canada heads the list as the most developed and prosperous of them all as well as because of the fact that on account of her distance from the main theatres of war her homeland has never been menaced by foreign invasion and so she has been able to extend every help without any stint and without reserving anything for the defence of herself as has been the case with Australia Canada has generously supplied the mother country with the sinews of war and Canadian contingents have been fighting in many theatres, particularly in Cassino and Anzio beachheads Canada has been one of the main feeders of the R A F as it is in Canada that the vast Empire organization for the training of airmen is located where on account of its distance from the European theatre of war, the work has been proceeding without any hitch She has also turned out innumerable tanks, aircraft and lorries which have partly kept the invading army in Italy well supplied with these things Besides all this Canada is now the granary of the Empire and but for the foodstuffs supplied by her to Britain, she would have been faced with a very ugly situation The help which has been rendered by South Africa has been also very considerable though it cannot compare with that rendered by Canada Contingents of the South African army have borne their part in ejecting the Italians from Abyssinian soil, in occupying Eretria, in keeping Egypt free from German aggression and lastly in chasing the enemy away from North Africa Field Marshal Smuts is one of the strongest pillars of the Empire and sometimes in his zeal and enthusiasm for demonstrating his love for the British connection has been betrayed into advancing certain preposterous claims about the part to be played by the Empire in a post war world which even scandalised Mr Churchill and called forth repudiation from him for this astute leader in spite of his vaunted plain-speaking has got common sense enough not to sow the seeds of dissension among the

Allies before the war has been gained. But such an indiscreet act on the part of a Dominion Premier is sure to show the strong bias of attachment which bind the mother country with the dominions.

Australia also on the outbreak of hostilities rushed to the help of the mother country and Australian contingents fought alongside British, Indian and South African troops in Egypt and Libya as well as in vainly trying to stem the tide of Japanese advance in Malay Peninsula and the Dutch Indies till the advancing tide of Japanese conquests menaced her own homeland and she was compelled in pure self-defence to withdraw most of her forces fighting overseas for the defence of the mother land itself And since then Australian soldiers have been mainly fighting alongside the Americans in dislodging the enemy from New Guinea and the islands of the S-W Pacific. New Zealand also has helped to the best of her ability and her soldiers are even now fighting in the Cassino sector. All this testifies to the spontaneous help rendered by the dominions to the mother country and also testifies to the bond of affection that binds them all.

But though apparently all this presents a magnificent array of indisputable facts, signs are not wanting which distinctly point to the slackening of the bond also. Sceptics are inclined to doubt as how much of this spontaneous and overwhelming response was due to real attachment and how much to the sentiment of self-preservation and a firm determination to put down organised brigandage which disturbed the peace of the world and plunged it in this disastrous war. To the casual observer it certainly appears that in the post-war world Canada and Australia and with her New Zealand also will drift farther and farther away from this present moorings and may join in a sort of Federation with the U. S. A. There has already been established diplomatic relationship between Canada and her great neighbour across the border and in many other spheres of national activity there hss been the closest co-operation. Canadian statesman have been openly critical of the shackles imposed by the British connection which have hampered her activities and have acted as a drag upon her attainment of full nationhood The recent speech of Lord Halifax at Toronto in Canada dilating upon the benefits of the British connection and inviting her to join a sort of Imperial Federation after the war called forth angry rejoinders from the most eminent Canadian statesmen The same attitude of the restiveness is revealed by Reuter's communication from Ottawa under date March 5th about the Provincial Federal Conference held in Easter to discuss about the British North American Act. The message contains the significant lines—"Without implying a hardening of Canadian affection for Britain it is regarded as a safe guess that Canadian opinion steadily is swerving away from willingness to have Britain exercise this power (of revision) over proposed constitutional changes. The Prime Minister Mr. Mackenzie King is known to look with disfavour upon this phase of British connection. Changes in the British North American Act would be necessary preliminary to any sweeping post-war reforms in Canada." Comment upon this is superfluous. The message, if anything, shows the impatience on the part of Canada to force her from tutelage and attain full nationhood.

In the case of Australia the same attitude is to be apprehended though she has not been so outspoken and critical as her sister dominion of Canada being entirely preoccupied first with the problem of saving her from Japanese aggression and when that menace was virtually over with the equally difficult and pressing problem of dislodging Japan from her footholds in the islands of the Pacific scattered all along her northern and north-eastern coast which unless accomplished would serve as springboards for future Japanese aggression against her And in this act of ridding her of the dreadful Japanese menace she has been entirely helped by America who poured into her men and war materials in an unending stream which saved the situation and turned the tide of war It seemed at one time with Japan knocking at her gates and Darwin bombed from day to day that the rising tide of Japanese invasion was going to engulf her Things looked almost desperate and the mother country herself fighting for her very existence with her back to the wall could not send even a small contingent of troops or aircraft or tanks to save her It was at this dark hour that America stood manfully by her and saved her from imminent peril And when the war will be over, gratitude which does not count for much in international relations but even sound commonsense and a fear of the repetition of this dreadful episode will draw her nearer to America and farther away from Britain The centre of gravity of the financial world has long been shifted from Lombard St to Wall St and her present financial arrangement with America must have still further reduced her financial strength All British capital invested in America has been utilised for buying American war materials and how the dead weight of the Lend and Lease Act will be hanging from her neck like a mile stone With the loss of her Far Eastern possessions Britain has lost her lucrative eastern markets and her volume of export trade with India too is going to shrink very much on account of keen American competition Moreover, on conclusion of hostilities Japan is likely to make a determined effort to regain her lost Indian market unless she is beaten to her knees and is reduced to the position of a third rate power So Australia is not likely to receive any help from Britain, military or financial in case of future armed aggression against her or for the development of her vast undeveloped resources This help will be forthcoming in ample measure from America and this prospect is likely to attract her more and more to her neighbour across the seas by detaching her more and more from the mother country

So far as New Zealand is concerned she is sure to take her cue from her big neighbour and to follow her footsteps most faithfully for she cannot but do it

So we find that of all her dominions, South Africa will perhaps be left to Britain This will be mostly due to her distance from America as well as her distance from Germany and Japan Her territories are not going to be invaded by these latter countries, nor like Canada she is irresistibly drawn to a closer relationship with America But potentially she is not so rich as Canada or Australia and therefore her conection will not benefit the mother country very much nor that will be any compensation for the severing of her ties with Canada and Australia Moreover we must not forget that in South Africa too there is the strong South African Nationalist party led by Dr Malan opposed to British connection, which vehemently opposed the declaration of war against Germany It cannot be predicted how things will shape themselves when this party with fresh accession of strength will once more come to power

So ultimately India will be the only considerable possession left to Britain after the war and higher statesmanship demands that she should do everything in her power to placate her and follow a policy of conciliation towards her

THE KILLING OF NIKUMBHA

BY THE RT. HON. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI

[What follows is a free translation of sarga 77 of the Yuddha Kanda* of Valmiki's Ramayana. The Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri made it for one of his lectures on the poem. Kumbha and Nikumbha were sons of Kumbhakarna and met their fate in the war at the hands of Sugriva and Hanuman respectively. As a rule, the great rakshasa warriors were skilled in the use of the bow and arrow, and could also use their extraordinary physical strength, when driven to it, in close combat. The monkey chieftains had only stones and trees as their weapons, but when these were broken to bits by the enemy's arrows, fell back on the native force of their brawns and delivered powerful and often decisive blows with their palms and fists. The duel described in the present sarga was somewhat exceptional. Nikumbha did not begin with a shower of arrows, and Hanuman dispensed with the trees and rocks. As if by consent they closed in on each other without wasting time on preliminaries, and Hanuman won by superior strength and agility.]

WHEN Nikumbha saw his brother Kumbha stretched on the ground, he cast angry looks at Sugriva, as if he would burn him to ashes Then he grasped his imposing mace, stupendous like the crest of the mountain Mandara A gay garland wreathed it round Its haft had metal bands wrought like the five fingers of a titan's hand Round it ran a broad strip of gold, while diamonds and rubies studded it all over Like the death-dealing rod of Yama it seemed, causing dismay to the monkeys and nerving the rakshasas with courage. Wielding the weapon, which rivalled in size the flagstaff of Indra, Nikumbha, of terrific aspect, roared with mouth yawning wide. On his chest shone a medal of gold, his arms were held by beautiful bracelets, lustrous pendants depended from his ears, a resplendent garland enfolded his neck With these ornaments and with his club, Nikumbha assumed the threatening semblance of a vast cloud charged with lightning and thunder and shot with a vivid rainbow. As his giant arm twirled the club, the noise was like the bursting yell of the seven winds of heaven, and the light resembled the Fire-god himself bereft of smoke The vault above whirled around in the toss of Nikumbha's mace, as though Alaka, the city of the Gandharvas, performed rapid revolutions with her grand mansions and palaces, and the moon and stars and planets joined in the rotatory race. In fact the blazing jewels of the club were rendered the fiercer by the demon's consuming choler, and he struck terror into all hearts like the roaring and raging conflagration which makes an end of all created things when one yuga is succeeded by the next. So paralysing was the fear that the vanaras and rakshasas alike were unable to make the slightest movement. Alone among them all stood Hanuman in front of the rakshasa chieftain, with his broad breast bared to the fury of the attack On that breast fell with fierce force the giant club of Nikumbha hurled by the giant's arm. That very instant, lo and behold! from the monkey-hero's rock like breast there shot into the sky, making it one blinding blaze, a thousand meteors, the shattered fragments of the titanic club Hanuman bore the shock firm and unmoved, as though he

*Translation of Sarga 77, Yuddhakanda.

was a towering mountain, standing firm and unmoved while an earthquake spread ruin all round Then did Maruti, summoning all his strength, concentrate it into his clenched fist and bring it to bear with the violence of his divine father on Nikumbha s chest Imagine a black cloud streaked suddenly with fierce lightning and riven with thunder's roar, so shook Nikumbha s huge frame and streamed with red blood in profusion But the giant recovered soon and, grasping the unwieldy bulk of Hanuman with his powerful arms, lifted him off the ground, to the loud roar of exultant joy which rose from the rakshasa ranks This joy, however, lasted but for a moment, for at once with mighty blows of the fist Anjaneya freed himself, and throwing down the captor with main force, leaped on his prostrate body and pounded it mercilessly Then with both hands he caught the enemy's neck, twisted it about and smashed his head on the rock, setting up at the same time a reverberant roar of triumph When it was clear that the rakshasa had expired, the monkeys shouted with glee, the skies thundered with satisfaction, the earth rocked with joy, heaven rained fresh flowers, and consternation, stark and comfortless, seized the enemy hosts

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR

BY MR S M ARANGOT

LIBERATION OF PARIS

PARIS has been liberated by a national insurrection, and the battle for the French capital is virtually over with the surrender (25th August) of the German Commander to the Commander of the Second French Armoured Division and the Commander of the French Forces of the Interior This joyous deliverance of the city comes after four long years of serf dom and tyranny under the Nazi yoke, a sad experience, the like of which France has suffered on several occasions during the 1 500 years of her history, only to come out after a brief spell, regenerate and revived, to take up once again her foremost place among the leading demo cracies of the world Liberation of the city does not however, mean that it is yet free from the horrors of war, German artillery is still operating in certain por tions of Paris, laying down shells and blanketing the Allied advance column Unmindful of this continuance of the German threat, the residents gave a warm welcome to the liberators, led into the city in triumph by their leader General de Gaulle and joyously danced amidst actual fighting

The redemption of Paris is a landmark in the history of human freedom, just as its eclipse cast a gloom over the whole civi lised world for a time It also heralds the birth of the Fourth French Republic, an event which emphasises the conviction that democracy is not a dead political ideal Four years ago nobody dared to predict this historic event in the face of the stunning happenings of those days under the weight of the German *blitzkrieg*, when the banner of Liberty Equality, and Fraternity was pulled down and the Nazi New Order was seen to have come to stay Only one and one man, of all people in the world, knew that France would one day come up reincarnate and refreshed from the ashes of her misfortune General de Gaulle, Chef du Cabinet Mili taire in the Government of M. Reynaud

Broadcast from London, a message to the French Nation on June 18, 1940, four days after Paris was declared an open city and the Nazi hordes had marched into it. He asked: "Has the last word been said? Has all hope disappeared? Is the defeat final? No Believe me, I speak with knowledge and I tell you that France is not lost . . . For, France is not alone. She has a vast Empire behind her. She can unite with the British Empire which holds the seas and is continuing the struggle. She can utilise to the full, as England is doing, the vast industrial resources of the United States . . This war is not limited to the unhappy territory of our country . . . This war is a world war. In spite of all our mistakes, all our deficiencies, all our sufferings, there are in the universe sufficient means to enable us one day to crush our enemies"

These words uttered at a time when France's fortunes were at their lowest ebb are in marked contrast to what the French leader spoke in Paris on the 26th August "France is a great nation, and she has rights which she will know how to make heard . . After what has happened to France we shall not rest or be satisfied until we enter, as is only right, upon the enemies' own territories as conquerors. We are going to fight on to the last day—to the day of total and complete victory"

LIBERATION OF FRANCE

In the liberation of Paris as in that of France the initiative is allowed to the French Patriots and the French Army for whom the task assumes a religious and fanatical fervour; but the task is rendered possible by the irresistible march of the Allied armies from a small beachhead on the Normandy Coast to the very frontiers of Germany to which the Nazi forces are being driven from different directions. General Patton's tank forces are now having a sweep south-east of Paris towards the German frontier, having already reached Troyes on the Seine, and Reims seventy miles further north. Reims is only sixty miles from the Luxemburg border and the historic battlefield of Sedan, the scene of the German break through into France in 1940

Allied armies have captured a vast area of Occupied France comprised within the limits of the sea coast on the north, the valley of the Loire in the south and the Seine in the east. The southern portion of France is being simultaneously liberated by the French Forces of the Interior on the one hand and the Allied forces who landed on the southern coast in Riviera, and are fast progressing towards the north, towards Paris, towards the German frontier, and towards the Franco-Spanish border. Some of the most important cities of France have fallen into the hands of the Allies, cities like Marseilles, Toulon, Cannes and Toulouse, while Bordeaux is entirely in the hands of the French forces. No more does Vichy France exist; Petain and Laval are under arrest, and Allied Armies from the north and south, converging on the borders of Germany, have almost completed the liberation of France from Nazi yoke.

The most encouraging part of France's deliverance is the fact that it comes mainly from the American Army. Within a period of four years, America has moved from an attitude of cold indifference towards the war to one of warm enthusiasm for participation, a change in the angle of vision brought about partly by the persuasion of the German steel and fire, but mainly by the challenging bold stand taken up by Britain under the leadership of Winston Churchill In the beginning American people, as a whole, quite definitely did not want to become involved in the war; once bitten twice shy was the prevailing temper at that time.

The progress of events on this theatre has been surprisingly rapid during this month, since at the beginning we had only just concluded the battle of Normandy and the battle of France was about to start. But from the nature of the events it is possible to state the Allied progress was deliberate and foreseen. General Eisenower is seen moving his headquarters from

three Russian armies from different directions were closing in on Warsaw. We could also see at the beginning of the month of August Marshal Koniev's men in the Tarnapol area in the south Crossing the Dniester, capturing Stanislawow and swarming into the Carpathian foothills where the right wing of the Russian offensive against Rumania had come to a halt. Here they were found in pursuit of the Hungarian troops into Hungarian-occupied Czechoslovakia.

As the month advanced events took a more definite shape. Of the whole Russian front, a particular section between Riga and Warsaw, a distance of 360 miles, was actually in flames as the Germans saw that the events on the Baltic sector would decide not only the fate of the thirty divisions of the German army encircled by a steel arc from Lake Pskov to Riga, but would also open the way for the Russian forces towards East Prussia Warsaw is being subjected to a pincer movement, Marshal Rokossovsky battling for initiative on the eastern and north eastern approaches to Warsaw, and Marshal Koniev striking out vigorously from the bridgehead over the Vistula, south of Warsaw.

THE BALKANS

The most remarkable achievement for the Russian army during this month has been on the Balkan theatre in which Rumania has left the Axis camp and agreed to Russian terms, and the Russian army has reached the valley of the Danube. The Rumanian capital has been cleared of the Germans and the Danubian port of Galatz has been captured. Bulgaria is seeking peace terms from the Allies and according to the latest news German troops crossing into Bulgarian territory are being disarmed. Bulgaria is a state which had aligned herself with the Axis from March 1st 1941; but Hitler had never been able to persuade Bulgaria to declare war on Russia. Bulgaria, of all Balkan countries, had been the most sympathetic to the Soviet system, and the first to demonstrate the conviction that henceforward Russia would be the dominating influence in south-east Europe. Yugoslavia has already got in operation a powerfully organised resistance movement and King Peter's new government has set at rest all controversy among the various Patriotic organisations. Yugoslavia is already a mine which has been set fire to, and the fire of rage against German domination which it started is already spreading to the other Balkan states. The German fortress on the Balkan side is already reeling and its crash must come when General Alexander starts a major operation with northern Italy as the base. The time for this great event is not far off; the Allied army under General Alexander has reached the Gothic Line of German defence and several spearheads have already crossed the Arno in their march towards the Po valley, but the creation of a separate command for the Adriatic, the visit of His Majesty the King, followed by a prolonged visit from Mr. Churchill, all these point the way to some startling military venture.

THE JAPANESE THEATRE

As a result of the Allied raid on Sabang and the almost complete capture of the Mariana group of islands Japan began to view the naval situation in the Pacific very seriously and the Tokyo radio stated: "The Japanese navy which is the means of protection of the very life of Japan will enter into battle only in waters comparatively close to the mainland." The Japanese Emperor called a meeting of his cabinet and exhorted his ministers to advice the people to be calm and be prepared for all sacrifices. In North Burma Allied troops captured Myitkyina early last month and followed it up with further advances towards Bhamo. Another Allied force is on its way from Mogaung to Mandalay along the railway, while a third army is marching from Indian borders and are fighting in Japanese-held Burma territory.

Position of Indians in South Africa

BY MR MANILAL GANDHI

[In the following article Mr Manilal Gandhi Editor of *Indian Opinion* in South Africa points out that the suspension of the obnoxious Pegging Act in favour of the Licensing Board does not afford the slightest relief to Indians resident in the colony He complains that the principle of segregation is still there and the anti Indian feeling worked up by a section of the Whites is bound to worsen the lot of Indians there The Draft Ordinance to be passed by the Natal Provincial Council simply means that the fate of Indians in Natal will be decided not by the Union Government but by the Natal Provincial Council for it gives a right of appeal against the decision of the Licensing Board to the administration who will have the final say —ED *I R*]

I FIND there is a great deal of misunderstanding among the people outside South Africa about the recently passed legislation known as the *Pegging Act* which restricts the right of Indians in Durban of acquiring ownership of land and of residence and occupation and about the Draft Ordinance at present before the Natal Provincial Council which provides for the establishment of Licensing Boards composed of two Indian members and two European members with a European Chairman having legal or judicial experience The purpose of this Licensing Board will virtually be to decide which are areas predominantly occupied by Europeans and which are predominantly occupied by Indians No person other than of the class for which such areas are demarcated, will thereafter be permitted to reside there, and no Asiatic will be permitted to reside outside such areas without first obtaining a licence to do so from the Licensing Board This Draft Ordinance is the result of an agreement arrived at between General Smuts Prime Minister of the Union and a few Congress leaders and a few Europeans, on their own Neither the European members nor the Indian Congress members who were party to the agreement had consulted their respective organisations before doing so The impression created outside South Africa is that the above mentioned Draft Ordinance, if passed will be a distinct gain for the Indians in Natal In fact however, it will not be so

The Pegging Act is a measure passed by the Union Parliament and though it is stated to be of a temporary nature it has virtually come to remain on the Statute Book This assumption is fully justified by what has happened in the case of the Transvaal Asiatic Land and Trading Act, 1939, which was supposed to be an interim measure but still remains on the Statute Book

The Draft Ordinance is to be passed by the Natal Provincial Council which means that the fate of Indians in Natal will be decided not by the Union Government but by the Natal Provincial Council for it gives a right of appeal against the decision of the Licensing Board to the administration, who will have the final say

The Draft Ordinance lays down the policy of establishing class areas —which amounts to segregation—in Durban against which Indians in South Africa and the Government and the people of India have been fighting all these years and which brought about the Round Table Conference and the Cape Town Agreement of 1927 A handful of

Congress leaders backed by the High Commissioner for India have agreed to this measure being passed for the sake of a paltry material gain, *viz*, the withdrawal of the application of the Pegging Act in Durban, thus restoring the right of acquiring properties for the purpose of investment. In other words, the segregation part of the Pegging Act has been achieved by the New Draft Ordinance

There was a time when Congress unanimously condemned and rejected *in toto* the Pegging Act and went to the length of asking for the High Commissioner for India to be recalled. They have given no justification for their *volte face* beyond the fact that they believe that whether we like it or not, segregation has come to stay; that if we acquired properties at present we shall be able at a later stage to claim the right of occupation in properties owned by us. This is a defeatist and most humiliating attitude for responsible leaders to adopt and for any self-respecting Government to encourage. It has been reported in South Africa that the official circles in India have blessed the Pretoria Agreement

It should be remembered that both the Pegging Act and the proposed Draft Ordinance are applicable to any part of Natal where it is deemed necessary. They are not restricted only to Durban. The futility of the supposed material gain can be seen from the fact that as soon as the Draft Ordinance was published the High Commissioner made an appeal to Indians to exercise the right, the Union Government has so generously restored to them, with great restraint lest the European public may be agitated and the Pegging Act once again put into operation.

The Cape Town Agreement has long been treated as a scrap of paper by the Union Government and instances are not wanting to show how hopelessly the High Commissioner for India has failed to implement that agreement and to protect the rights of Indians in South Africa.

It will interest the people of India to know by way of contrast how the Chinese are asserting their rights in South Africa. The South African Press is strongly advocating the removal of the invidious colour bar in so far as the Chinese are concerned, because China, they argue, "is our powerful ally." The European Press has generally evinced sympathy for the Chinese and has sounded a note of warning to the European public to be careful not to antagonise a powerful ally which is so bravely serving the cause of democracy and human freedom.

I wish the public in India to know that *Indian Opinion*, which I am editing in South Africa, is subjected to strict censorship and is not allowed to go out of the borders of the Union.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G. T., Madras.

HOW WE WILL DEFEAT JAPAN

By Mr MAX WERNER

Author of Battle for the World and The Great Offensive

TO bring Japan to abrupt and final defeat we must co ordinate our oceanic war of movement in the Pacific with a big land war on the Asiatic main land We must reach and capture that zone along the Chinese coast from Canton to Shanghai whence decisive fighting against Japan can be accomplished This zone of decision must include the hinter land and adjoining waters It must be approached from two directions at once—from the Chinese mainland and from the Pacific Ocean

A turning point in the war against Japan is at hand From a military point of view this war though already in its third year is still in its preliminary phase But as our forces concentrate in the Pacific it is being waged with intensified strength and most important with a new type of operations The anti Japanese coali tion is turning from a war of attrition to a war of military decision and from local thrusts to a war of movement

To calculate how the decision in the war against Japan will come about we must employ realistic imagination This war is without precedent and cannot be waged according to any existing pattern Never before has a war been fought in such gigantic spaces as those from Burma to Hawaii and from the Aleutians to Australia Nor have modern war techniques ever before been used in these areas This war demands a new kind of operational skill

In 1944 American aviation is making tremendous strides Our growing shipping resources are becoming available for the war in the Pac fic Our sea power with new and modern warships is being turned increasingly in this direction When the war in Europe ends the greater part of the Royal Air Force and the British Navy will be transferred to the Far East American and British divisions seasoned on African and European battlefields will be hurled against the Japanese forces We may assume that by the end of 1944 the United States and Britain will have two fold naval and fourfold aerial superiority over Japan Our ground troops will be better equipped and our available reserves will be greater

However mere numerical superiority in the Pacific will not suffice What matters there is not only the sum total of our strength but also the how of its deploy ment And this how includes the type of operations and the where —the direction of the main blow

Out of the specific conditions of the Pac fic war theatre there have devel ped special kinds of tactics for every arms branch These are being perfected and are reaching a high point of efficiency

As instruments of the war of movement air and sea power have the task of bridging spaces and of accelerating the tempo of operat ons Combined with these into a unified war mach ne is land power which acquires speed from sea and air power Troopships carry an army which moves on the water with naval and air coverage of its own—a floating army with

wings. Close collaboration of the various arms branches establishes a three-dimensional war machine in the Pacific which can float, fly, march on the ground, advance on wheels, and fight under any conditions. Its teamwork must be perfect; ground forces capture bases for the air and naval forces, sea power becomes a floating bridge for land power; the air force extends the zone of action of both land and naval forces.

The decisive operations in the Pacific are the landings Without them sea and air power are able only to carry out naval raids and attacks from the air It is the ground forces which will pin down the ever-closing ring around Japan in firmly fixed positions, and force decisions at short distances until they land on the Japanese Isles.

From the Chinese coast, with the adjoining waters of the South China Sea, the Formosa Strait, and the East China Sea, the whole war theatre against Japan can be dominated. True, if the anti-Japanese coalition were to hold the whole line from the Aleutians to South-East Asia, running through the tip of Kamchatka and the Russian coastal provinces to the Chinese coast, the war could be brought closer to Japan and finished more quickly. But for the time being we must count on only those positions which are today politically and strategically within the realm of possibility.

The Chinese coast is a spring-board for the attack against Japan and from its shores we can control the enemy's vital communications. It offers the anti-Japanese coalition a broad continental base for operations against Japan from the direction where she is most vulnerable. From this point the entire Japanese defence system can be unhinged.

The Chinese coast can give us naval and air bases from which to wage war against Japan from short distances. Formosa is Japan's Sicily and the Chinese coast is her Algiers. Here the junction of the Pacific front and the Asiatic land front against Japan can be effected. Seizure of the Chinese coast line will make possible a steady flow of supplies and troops to Chinese and hasten the military decision there.

Capture of the Chinese coast also would break the whole Japanese Co-Prosperity Sphere in half. The Japanese Isles would cut off from the vital raw materials in the south and also from the outlying southern defence positions of the new Japanese Empire, especially Singapore. The Japanese troops throughout Southern Asia would be cut off from their supply bases on the Japanese Isles.

Thus the "metabolism," the life-and energy-sustaining process, within the Japanese Empire would be disrupted. It depends on two streams, raw materials going one way, military supplies the other. As Admiral Nomura put it in December, 1943: "Japan cannot exist by herself nor defend herself—her existence and defence are dependent on co-operation and interchange of materials in the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere."

A glance at the map shows the state of Japan's land war in Asia and the possibilities such land war offers the anti-Japanese coalition. In China, Japan has

attained her major strategic objective She has no highway across China, even from Shanghai to Cantan. The lands she holds on the Asiatic continent are not connected The Japanese armies throughout Asia must rely on sea routes that are exposed to attacks by ships, submarines, and planes Burma Thailand, and Malaya are islands, as far as the Japanese held regions in China are concerned accessible only from the sea

On the other hand, the Chinese forces are fighting against their Japanese opponents from short distances The Chinese stand close to Hankow, Nanking, Canton, Hong Kong and Swatow—that is to say, close to the country's big railroad, administrative, and strategic centres, ports, and air bases They all lie close in front of the Chinese and just behind the Japanese lines The Japanese Army has been unable to throw any deep safety zone around these positions The Chinese need only advance relatively short distances, from 40 to 200 miles, from some points they hold and they will recapture all of the country s vital military centers

The mediocrity of the Japanese Army in large scale fighting has been demonstrated in China What it did not do proves what it cannot do In the five and a half years of war since the occupation of Hankow the Japanese have chalked up no further successes worth mentioning, despite their hundredfold industrial and technical superiority Their tactical skill has been inadequate and the war plans of their leaders have been based on miscalculations

The opportunities and tasks of the coming campaign in Burma thus become clearer This campaign is to establish direct contact between the Anglo American forces and the Chinese Army While Lord Mountbatten has the task of outflanking the Japanese in South East Asia, that of the Chinese offensive will be to break through to the three China Seas If the Chinese Army alone was able to stop 30 Japanese divisions (almost three times as many as Japan has stationed throughout South East Asia) it will be able in co operation with the Allied fronts—even if it should receive only limited arms supplies —to take the offensive The recent successful battle of Changteh showed what China s troops can accomplish with American air support

A war of movement against Japan is possible everywhere, in the Pacific as well as on the Asiatic continent The vast, over extended Japanese possessions can be attacked from any point where counter forces are concentrated A Fortress Asia or a Pacific Wall, as counterparts of Hitler s Fortress Europe and Atlantic Wall, are non existent There is no dense Japanese defence within narrow confines The Japanese defences offer exposed flanks everywhere That is especially true of the Pacific area But on the Asiatic continent, too, positional warfare is not inevitable At present a kind of equilibrium is maintained there between the Chinese and the Japanese forces But if Anglo American forces enter the picture, that balance will be upset

In a certain sense, the anti Japanese coalition will repeat the Japanese offensives in reverse It will proceed from China's interior to the Chinese coasts and from the periphery of the Pacific to the Japanese

Islands. What will matter, however, is not the recapture of territory but the military result—the collapse of Japanese defences Japan sought economic conquest, not an ultimate military decision Anglo-American strategy, in contrast, must seek a military decision, which would automatically bring in its wake the liberation of all areas robbed by Japan To knock out Japan militarily, we do not need everything Japan holds Nor do we need everything Japan needs militarily We have to wrest from Japan only what we require for our advance in a chosen direction—which means air and naval bases. Therefore the struggle will be waged for a limited number of objectives picked by us.

The anti-Japanese coalition will hit Japan with everything it has, direct military blows, destruction from the air, and attrition of Japanese shipping and aviation. We will have powerful bombardment aviation in 1944, with bombers tremendously improved in performance Air bombardment will show greater relative results against Japan than against Germany One thousand tons of bombs dropped on Japanese cities will have a comparatively greater effect than the same number dropped on German cities. But Japan is better protected by long distances than Germany and, by using the mainland, has much vaster possibilities of relocating its industries

To carry out destruction from the air we need air bases closer to Japan Getting them will be a chief objective of our landing operations.

It will be approximately another year before we can concentrate our full forces in the Pacific, and another 12 to 18 months before the decisive operations against Japan can be waged. In 1945 and the first half of 1946 great events may be expected in the last war theatre of World War II. We can envision how Japan will succumb.

Japanese aviation will grow increasingly weak and incapable of supporting and protecting ground and sea forces and of staving off the Allied air fleets.

Japan's Navy will be unable to maintain communications with outlying strategic positions and raw material regions. The Japanese Army will be crushed by the combination of crack Anglo-American troops and the masses of the Chinese Army.

Above all, the Japanese fighting forces will become over-extended and incapable of maneuver. War in the Pacific puts the defender at a disadvantage, while the attacker holds the odds. The defender, who wants to cling to positions, scatters his forces. The attacker, if he is able to rally large mobile masses for maneuver, is able to effect a deep break-through. We shall win because we shall have a motorized mass force available on the water, in the air, and on the ground. The Japanese defence lines will be ripped and Japanese fighting forces will be unable to ward off break-throughs in depth.

When the Japanese Islands are cut off from the southern colonial area and the Japanese Army is beaten on the Asiatic mainland, the defence of the Japanese Islands will become a hopeless undertaking. The Allies, in possession of the Chinese coasts as a land base, will be in a position to carry out landings on the Japanese Islands.

Admiral Nomura put it very succinctly when he said that Japan as a military power cannot exist if its Empire is smashed.—*Liberty*.

SRI AUROBINDO

THE GREAT YOGI AND PHILOSOPHER

By Mr. K. BALASUBRAMANIA IYER, B A, B L

THE story of Sri Aravindo's life reads like a romance. A thoroughly anglicised youth trained from boyhood in English public schools and graduating at Cambridge,



SRI AUROBINDO GHOSE

with English practically as his mother-tongue, his ambition was to qualify himself for the civil service and return to India as a full-fledged Indian civil servant He narrowly missed his mark and came to India only to become the principal of a college at Baroda. But his innate fiery spirit and burning patriotism could not be suppressed by his Western education and English training. They were, on the other hand, nourished and fostered by it He resigned his post and threw himself heart and soul on the side of the 'Extremist', of the Indian National Congress of those days. He became the renowned editor of the *Bandemataram* and thundered forth in its leading articles the surging thoughts of the rising generation of Bengal One vividly remembers still the profound impression his leader entitled the 'Ardhodayayog' made on all youthful minds then. Early in life, he acquired an astonishing mastery of the English language and a profound knowledge of Greek and Latin, with a fair acquaintance with French, Italian and German. Soon he headed the revolt of the youth of Bengal and came under the severe notice of the Government as an arch conspirator and seditionist He was for some time prisoner in the Alipur jail. Later, he found his abode at Pondicherry. Thenceforward began his wonderful spiritual career as a great Yogi and for more than thirty years now he shines forth as the world-famous sage, thinker and philosopher. He has been expounding the great philosophy of India and, experiencing in his own inner life, the great spiritual truths discovered by India's ancient seers He is a great literary artist, and has been writing incessantly, both verse and prose. He has many standard works to his credit, his 'Magnum Opus' being the 'Life Divine' in three volumes and next in importance, 'the Essays on the Gita' in two volumes. His ashrama at Pondicherry has attracted many devout disciples and scholars. Many distinguished Non-Hindus like the late Sir Francis Y[illegible]

and the late Sir Akbar Hydari were influenced by his teachings He has become now the founder of a school of philosophic thought and practical discipline. He has a great message of hope and deliverance for mankind and envisages the birth of a new world, full of spirituality and divine afflatus It is indeed worthy of the great master and his teachings that his gifted disciples and admirers have published the two numbers of the Sri Aravindo Annual on the occasion of his seventieth and seventy-first birthdays on the 15th August, 1942 and 15th August, 1943 Eminent writers therein have sought to give to the reading public a very clear idea of his unique contributions to Indian philosophic thought, the inestimable value to us of his rich synthetic experience as a Yogi and his great literary merit as a poet of spirituality and as a master of English prose One of his disciples acclaims him as a "modern Messiah who would give us the light that would show us the way out of the hopeless we have made of our life, torn as we are by communal, national and international feuds." Many have adverted to the distinct and distinguishing features of his philosophic thought and explained how he differs in certain respects from the other great philosophers and teachers of India and how he tries to improve upon them. The great Shankara and his well-thought-out and widely accepted doctrines fortified by his own spiritual experience, come in for much criticism at their hands One writer while remarking that Shankara preaching renunciation of life and work was quite consistent in his philosophy adds significantly a footnote "though his own extraordinary life of activity contradicted his own philosophy". Reading this, one cannot help feeling that Sri Aravindo leading the life of a recluse immured in the quiet of his ashrama, at Pondicherry, far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife is a faithful follower of Shankara's philosophy. The ideal of Sri Aravindo is, as it has been pointed out "to divinise the human, to immortalise the mortal and spiritualise the material".

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International Order & International Policing

By Mr R GALLETTI ICS

AT a public meeting recently held in Madras, the writer put forward certain ideas about world order which he believes to be both new and important The press reported the speech, but the new ideas were left out of the report It seems therefore desirable to have these ideas put forward in a place where readers familiar with the points already made by such thinkers as Wells, Angell Lord Davies and Streit will be able to consider the new points at leisure The writer's aim is to complete, and not merely to re state, an argument which needs this completion before it can point the way to a practicable policy

The argument may be resumed briefly as follows Nations which are treated as the individual units in international affairs behave worse than individuals in any society It is not grasped that the conditions required to ensure the good behaviour of individuals in other communities must apply to nations in the international community The root of the trouble is that nations still claim, as individuals used to in uncivilized societies the right to be judges in their own cause and to use force to assert their own private will—in short, claim "sovereign independence" Such a claim cannot be conceded without anarchy, whether it is made in a society of individual persons or in a society of individual nations In civilized states similar claims made by individual persons have been denied and order has been established by making force a public monopoly, referring all disputes to impartial judges judging according to rules laid down by a competent law maker which also determines the rules for the use of the public force, and using the public force to make good the decisions of the judges against any individual who refuses to accept them Similar conditions must be brought into being in the world society if international order is to replace anarchy

It is argued that the League of Nations though worthy of support for want of something better failed because, in the first place there was no competent law-maker to lay down the rules of international good behaviour and international justice, secondly, there was no competent tribunal capable of handling all disputes between nations, and, thirdly, sanctions without force would not work and sanctions with force meant war, since there was no monopoly of public force against which individual nations would be unable to rebel

When the inability of the League system to prevent the oncoming of a general war was becoming increasingly manifest and some were disposed to argue that Collective Security could still be made effective if sufficiently organized, it was pointed out that to organize Collective Security as a Grand Alliance was excessively difficult, even if the peace loving nations so organized could be trusted to be the stronger group and to remain peace loving, that the bond between them—fear of the aggressor states—might dissolve before the greater fear of actual war, and that the forces at the disposal of the Alliance

would be dispersed and under many commands, so that the aggressor could destroy them piecemeal. (Hitler, in fact, counted on defeating his enemies one by one, and nearly did it).

It was argued by Streit and his followers that the defects of Alliances, Leagues and Confederations of states are not found in Federal Unions of peoples, which provide a strong central government and give it a monopoly of armed force within the limits of the Union. They argued that even if the Union were territorially scattered and its armed forces dispersed, the aggressor would have to reckon with the fact that the component parts could not make peace separately, and while he was striking down one part the Union would have time to mobilize all its power Hence a Union of the principal democratic states would be a sure guarantee of world peace.

The argument seems to the present writer quite sound, assuming—which is a reasonable assumption—that the democratic states of the modern world will not themselves develop aggressive desires. But the writer would urge that from Streit's own argument further deductions and developments naturally follow; and he believes that if Streit's proposals are feasible, there is a possibility of an even sounder organization of public force for world order.

Streit rightly argued that it is an error to bind states; the course which works is to bind individuals. Burke said he did not know the method of drawing up an indictment against a whole people. Still less do we know the method of putting a nation in the dock or a state in the lock-up. The coercion of states can be achieved only by war or by "unfriendly acts" little short of war, even if the coercing power is a Union with an overwhelming war potential. On the other hand, the argument of "Union Now" and the lessons of history show that peace and order are easily maintained when the public force has to deal only with the recalcitrance of individuals and no longer with organized armed force. The feudal potentates who were allowed to keep a large armed retinue were a menace to peace; the Moghul Viceroys and Chinese provincial governors had to be quelled, when they revolted, by warfare and not by mere policing, because the state was confronted by organized armed force. But when the state has once broken the power of such potentates, and taken from them finally the power to use organized private force against the public force, the state's public force can be used against individuals with effect and without fighting. To give another example, Chicago gangsters with armed gangs had to be fought; but once the state had asserted itself and broken up the armed gangs, police methods could be used instead of warfare on a small scale.

The notion which this writer put forward in the lecture already mentioned —a notion which does not seem to have been put forward before—is that the public force of the world to maintain world peace and order has to operate in the same way as the public force of states to maintain national peace and order; that is, it must be exerted against individuals and not against nations.

Proposals for a world peace force, such as those of Ely Oulbertson and those which seem to be in preparation in Washington and London, envisage armies under the control of a world authority to fight wars if need be It is not to be said that such Peace Forces would not be effective, but the writer would say that they are a clumsy, doubtful and uneconomical way of doing what should be done by policing, in the same way as the same thing is done in the smaller unit under a state government

What is the implication? This, that the individual members of state governments must be subject to a known international law; that the individuals who are the real breakers of the international law, whether they are private citizens or public officials or ministers of state, must be subject to arrest and prosecution and punishment for their offences, that the world police must, therefore, be able to operate freely within every country, as federal police operate freely within every state of a Union; that the local police must be bound to assist the world police, not to hinder them; and that the power of resisting the world police in the execution of their duty must not be left to the individuals composing a state government. So we get the following elements of a complete solution of the problem of world order First, all armed forces under the control of national governments must be abolished, in all countries without exception (though for ceremonial purposes and the control of tribal and uncivilized areas small forces might be maintained with the assent of the world authority) Secondly, there must be a World Authority with legislative competence in matters affecting world welfare Thirdly, there must be World Courts to declare the law and decide disputes, preferably there should be many World Courts—courts of first instance in every important capital, courts of appeal in each continent, a Supreme Court of final resort Fourthly, there must be a disciplined world police force, recruited from all the world, responsible only to the World Authority, acting only under its directions for the execution of the decrees of the world courts and the enforcement of the world law and having the power to investigate, to question, to search and to arrest individuals in any place where a breach of the world law is meditated, prepared or attempted

Are these requirements Utopian? It is one thing to state what are the "necessary and sufficient conditions' for the solution of a problem, it is another to obtain assent and to bring a scheme into effect Judging from the pronouncements of statesmen, there does not seem to be much hope of any nation at the present time coming within such a scheme as is here suggested Yet the present time offers an opportunity such as has not occurred before and may not recur again The victory of the United Nations and the months or years of peace making that must follow will make it necessary for men to come together from all over the world after an enlightening experience of what can happen in an anarchic community of nations Their minds should be prepared for revolutionary changes in world organization; and they should be able to count

on their peoples' interest in proposals that promise to guarantee national safety without infringing national self-respect, and to replace the Dead Sea fruits of "sovereign independence" by the more substantial rights guranteed under a rule of law

Is the following an unimaginable prospect? The United Nations have won the war. Churchill, Stalin, Roosevelt and Chiang kai-shek, as the national leaders of the greatest fame, join in inviting the governments of all countries—Axis and neutral as well as United Nations—to allow their peoples to take part in forming an international community of nations. They suggest that the delegates should be chosen in the following manner: one set to be elected directly by the national electorates, universal or limited, enrolled for this purpose, a second set to be named by the governments. The first set is to be chosen in proportion to population for each country, and will form the Constituent Assembly to draft the world constitution The second set is to be the same in number for each state, with a certain not excessive weightage to the Great Powers because of their greater responsibility in world affairs; it will form the Council of Conciliation and will not initiate proposals but will debate any point in the Constituent Assembly's proposals which are alleged by the delegates of any country to be detrimental to its own vital interests; and if the Council cannot itself reach an agreed finding, it will name arbitrators to give a binding decision. The Constituent Assembly's duties will be threefold. In the first place it will draft a Constitution, stating the structure and powers of the World Authority, the World Courts and the World Police Force Secondly, it will draw up the list of the subjects assigned to the World Authority for legislation and administration Thirdly, it will draw up a list of the World Laws that should be drafted in the first session of the World Legislature. The list should certainly include most of the following: a World Penal Code, defining the offences against world peace and order and prescribing the penalties; a World Criminal Procedure Code, prescribing the manner in which offences should be investigated, prosecuted and tried, a World Dispute Procedure Code, prescribing the manner in which aggrieved parties, whether individuals or governments, may seek remedies in the world courts against the acts of governments not their own and against citizens of other states, an International Commerce Code, laying down the rules of fair dealing in trade, traffic, communications and tariffs; an International Money Law, to provide a currency of universal circulation; an International Transfer of Property Law, prescribing the manner in which land or capital may be obtained by the citizens or government of one state from the citizens or government of another; and a World Authority Taxation Act, for the purpose of providing the World Authority with an adequate revenue for the performance of its functions (which should be far below the total of the expenditures of all the nations on armed forces in an anarchic world).

These things are not beyond the wit of man. What is wanting is neither knowledge nor intelligence, but the will to be reasonable and right. The greatest impediment is the habit of the common man in nearly every country of personifying his nation or state as a divine individual that can do no wrong and must be judge in its own cause. If the common man can once grasp the simple truth, that the human world is more truly thought of as a community of millions of men, women and children than as an assemblage of imaginary national persons knowing nothing of law, liberty, conscience or happiness, the rest is not difficult.

Baroda Under Sir V. T. Krishnamachari

BY 'POLITICUS"

WRITING in the *Twentieth Century* on Sir V T Krishnamachari's retirement from the Baroda State, Mr K M Panikkar, a close student of the affairs of Indian States, said "Sir V T Krishnamachari whose retirement from the Dewanship of Baroda has been an event of major significance in Indian States history in recent times, occupies a unique position in the public life of India An administrator of outstanding ability, a statesman with an undimmed vision of the future of his Motherland and a humanist and thinker who recognizes the dominant claims of the spirit even when dealing with matters of daily routine, Krishnamachari stands out prominently among the men of his generation' There have been other tributes equally generous

The Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes described him as "a distinguished administrator, a far sighted statesman and a true patriot whose services have won him general admiration and respect" The *Times of India* writing under the caption, "A brilliant dewan," dwelt on his long and notable association with Baroda, his liberal and progressive administration, the mark he has left on "every facet of Baroda's welfare' and on his activities in wider spheres—at the Round Table Conference and the Committees connected with it, on the Joint Parliamentary Committee, on the Committee of Ministers and on the Advisory Delegation to the Imperial Conference of 1937

Sir Krishnamachari served as Dewan of Baroda for 17 years and 4 months This is believed to be a record for dewanship in a major State During all this period, he worked with a single minded devotion to the interests of the people which has won for him an abiding place in the history of the State

Sir Krishnamachari's administration was based on the principle that the progress of a people should not be one sided—that all aspects of life—social, ecohomic and political—are equally important This explains the place social legislation occupied in his programme He worked zealously for the abolition of untouchability and generally for social justice in the widest sense Legislative measures were under taken for bringing Hindu law into accord with modern conditions—for raising the age for marriage, for rectifying inequalities in the law of succession applicable to women etc A monogamy law was passed in 1942 In regard to social legislation he agrees with the B N Rao Committee that such legislation should 'reflect the highest ideals of the race' and the most interesting chapters in the annual reports issued by him were those reviewing the working of social legislation in the State

Sir Krishnamachari followed a sustained and continuous policy of economic development Constant attention was given to the welfare of agriculturists A comprehensive programme of work was undertaken by the Agriculture Department, the expenditure on which was increased to nearly four times what it was when he joined, with results of permanent value The co operative movement was extended State encouragement was given to industries with striking results

The capital invested in the textile industry was doubled in the last few years and new industries were started, all of which are thriving. Special mention should be made of the heavy chemicals industry—the Tata Chemicals—in which over two crores have been spent and the company for the manufacture of automobiles recently registered in the State by leading industrialists.

Side by side with this were carried out useful programmes of improvements to the Okha port and road and railway projects.

In Education, Sir Krishnamachari took the keenest interest. The establishment of the Science and Technological Institute in 1936 was due to his personal initiative The Institute is well equipped and has done useful research work on industrial and other problems A Teachers' College and a Commerce College were started some years ago and recently plans have been made for an Engineering and a Medical College, including the financial provision needed for starting them The Polytechnic in Baroda has been expanded and arrangements have been made for starting similar institutions in the districts of the State.

The State's financial position has always been sound and Sir Krishnamachari added to its stability The long-pending dispute with the Government of India in regard to Baroda's share of customs revenue was settled in 1936, after protracted negotiations. This enabled the Baroda Government to relieve the burden of land tax by remitting permanently about one-fifth of the land revenue. At the same time, other sources of revenue were developed with the result that in the last five years land revenue forms only one-third of the total revenue of the State as against 60 per cent. previously. Commencing from 1941-42, large sums have been ear-marked and separately invested for useful post-war schemes mainly of rural reconstruction.

In 1939 an important step was taken in constitutional reform. The Legislative Assembly was expanded and given a large elective majority with enlarged powers and two popular representatives were included in the Cabinet. The Baroda Government have expressed themselves against the dyarchic system: and the "popular" ministers have the same standing and have access to the same information and possess the same control over the administration as the official members of the Cabinet.

Reference should be made to the notable contribution made by Sir Krishnamachari to the difficult problem of small States or estates in Kathiawar and Gujerat. As the result of a scheme prepared by him, these units were attached last April to larger States like Baroda. Over 5,000 square miles of territory were attached to Baroda under this arrangement.

So far we have referred to Sir Krishnamachari's work in the State. But his activities covered a wider sphere. From the commencement he was associated with the Round Table Conference and the Committees set up by it and the Joint Parliamentary Committee. Mr. Panikkar refers thus to his work on these bodies: "As the representative of Baroda . . . and as one of the leading spokesman of the Princes in the complicated discussions over many years, Sir Krishnamachari was one of the outstanding figures on the Indian

side . . His calm and unruffled temper, his great experience of administration and his essentially positive approach to all questions that seemed at one time or other to obstruct the path of progress were assets of great value not only to the States but to the Indian delegation as a whole . He approached every question with a view to find a satisfactory solution The outstanding characteristic of Sir Krishnamachari is his ability to separate the outward trappings and temporary aspects of a question, and to address himself to the substance His attitude is totally impersonal but in every discussion his contribution is something positive"

Sir Krishnamachari was a delegate to the League of Nations in 1934 and again in 1936 He was also on the Advisory Delegation to the Imperial Conference in 1937

We have no doubt that Sir Krishnamachari's wide knowledge of men and affairs and detached outlook on the problems of India will be useful to the country in the great tasks of reconstruction—social, economic and political—that lie ahead of us

PRITHVI RAJ: THE PRINCE OF MEWAR

A STORY OF THE 15th CENTURY RAJPUTANA

BY MR GOPAL DAS

IN a chamber decorated with swords, shields and spears and other trophies of war, sat three noble looking youths the sons of Rana Raimal of Mewar They had just returned from the chase and were taking 'amal' and conversing The talk veered round on the future kingship of Mewar

Jaimal, who was the youngest, spoke "Sanga Dada, though you are the eldest, it appears that Fate has intended Prithvi to be the future Rana of Mewar, for, is he not the bravest of us all, the idol of the people and a born leader of men?"

"'Its true, brother," replied Ganga, "that Prithvi is the most fitted to lead the Sesodias and, though I am the rightful heir, I would gladly resign my rights if it were for the good of the State Come, Prithvi, let the gods decide between us At Nahar Mugro dwells the priestess of Charuni Devi, let us betake ourselves thither and ask her who shall be lord of the ten thousand towns of Mewar If the choice falls on you I shall go and settle in some distant land"

The generous offer was readily accepted by Prithvi Raj whom inordinate lust for power had made jealous of his elder brother and rebel against the Fate that made him the younger son "Come, let us go', he said, and the three of them set out for the Mugro On the way they were joined by their uncle, Surajmal

* * *

Entering the priestess's chamber, while Prithvi Raj and Jaimal seated themselves on a pallet, Sanga flung himself upon a panther's skin on the floor, and Surajmal sat beside him, one knee resting on the skin Impatient of delay, Prithvi Raj disclosed their errand

The holy woman meditated for a moment and then, pointing to the panther's skin, addressed the younger Prince:

"Your brother sits on the traditional seat of the Sesodias and shall be the Lord of Mewar, and your uncle, who sits [but partially on it, too shall have power and be a chieftain."

"And I?"

"You shall perish in your attempt to win the throne."

A mad fury possessed Prithvi Raj as he heard the fateful pronouncement. "My sword and my sword alone, and nothing else shall decide my Destiny", he shouted and, unsheathing his blade, rushed at Sanga to kill him, but Surajmal interposed. The priestly chamber reverberated to the clash of steel and murmurs of strife as the brothers engaged in a bloody combat. But Sanga's desperate heroism could not long withstand the superior skill and dare-devil courage of his brother, and, blinded in one eye and bleeding from many sword-cuts, he sought safety in flight.

* * *

Rana Raimal was greatly grieved when he heard of the fight between his sons He loved his heir dearly and sending for Prithvi Raj banished him from Chittor. "You wretched Prithvi, should you desire the throne by seeking to kill your own brother? Your murderous jealousy has driven poor Sanga into exile. Chittor has no room for you Go and maintain yourself by strife since you love it so."

Too proud to plead for mercy, Prithvi Raj left Chittor. Accompanied by but five faithful followers, well armed and mounted, he rode off to seek his fortune.

* * * *

The district of Godwar had long been a part of Mewar but during the disastrous reign of Rana Banbeer, known as the 'murderer', the Meenas had revolted and proclaimed their independence. Rana Raimal had made many a vain effort to regain the lost tract. Now, determined to evince to his father that he had resources independent of birth, Prithvi Raj decided to accomplish what the Rana had failed to achieve, to expel the Meenas from Godwar and restore it to Mewar.

So he and his five horsemen rode to Nadole, the chief town of Godwar, where they arrived late one night, friendless and hungry. A year or so before Prithvi Raj had bought a diamond ring from one Ojha, a merchant of the town, and thinking that he would possibly assist him, he knocked at his house. The merchant welcomed the Prince and, on learning that he had come to free them from the tyranny of the Meenas, proffered his services in the scheme. The next morning, acting on Ojha's advice, Prithvi Raj and his Rajputs sought service with the Meena Chief, and bided their opportunity to strike!

When the Festival of Spring came, all the soldiers had leave and went to their homes Lest his presence might arouse suspicion, Prithvi Raj too left the town and hid himself in some ruins by the road. But his men stayed on guard at the palace and, when the Meenas made merry and feasted at night, they drew their swords and rushed at the Chief. The few

attendants that stood around were hewn down but the Chief slipped out in the ensuing confusion and fled from the castle Riding madly down the road he made for the mountains for security, but as he tore past the ruins, a thrust from Prithvi Raj's lance put an end to his flight Then the Sesodia Prince rode back to the town where his men had rallied all the Rajputs of the place round his banner by disclosing his identity All those who resisted were put to the sword and their homes burnt

Having accomplished his task, Prithvi Raj made Ojha the Governor of Godwar on behalf of the Rana and then rode off in search of "fresh fields to conquer

* * *

Rao Soortan, the Solanki Chief of Thoda, had been expelled from his kingdom by Lilla, the Afghan, and lived as an exile at Bednore in the Mewar territory He had a daughter, named Tara Bai, a girl of surpassing beauty and rare parts Scorning the ordinary feminine life of love and ease, she attained proficiency in all manly sports and could bend a bow, throw a spear, wield a sword and ride the fiercest horse as well as any man of her age

Attracted by her beauty, Jaimal, the Rana's third son, sought Tara's hand in marriage "Redeem Thoda" said the proud maiden, "and I am thine" The Prince assented to the condition but "evincing a rude determination to be possessed of the prize ere he had attained it, he was slain by the indignant father"

Here was an adventure after Prithvi Raj's own heart and when he heard the story, he at once determined to accept the gage thrown down to his brother Riding post haste to Bednore, he demanded the fair Tara for his wife The Thoda Princess had heard of the exploits of the Prince who had neither rival nor equal in daring and cherished a secret admiration for him So when he swore 'on the faith of a Rajput that he would win back Thoda, she gladly consented to become his wife and the two were married forthwith The nuptials over, Prithvi Raj set about making plans for redeeming his pledge

It was the day when the Muslims bewail the children of Ali, martyred at Kerbala The biers of Hassan and Hussain were placed in the central square of Thoda and a crowd of mourners had gathered round them From his balcony the Afghan usurper watched the procession when he saw three pilgrims in a strange garb mingling with the crowd "Who are they?" he asked, but scarcely had the words left his mouth when there was the twang of a bowstring and an arrow quivered in his heart The three pilgrims were Prithvi Raj, Tara Bai and the Chief of Sengar, one of the trusted five who accompanied the Prince in all his adventures

All was confusion as Lilla fell lifeless among his courtiers, and the conspirators made their way through the swaying, shrieking mass to the city gates, where three horses stood ready to take them away to where their troops lay in hiding The Afghans shouted for the blood of their Chief's murderers, but seeing no trace of them, started in pursuit But the raging, disorderly throng poured out of the gates only to find the Rajputs drawn up in battle array outside the city Taken completely by surprise and without a leader, the Afghans broke

and fled. The Rajputs made a triumphant entry into the city. The Afghan flag was torn down and the Solankis were again masters of Thoda.

The marriage vow was fulfilled!

* * *

This daring exploit led to the Prince's recall to Chittor. His restoration of Godwar to Mewar territory had greatly impressed the Rana, and now as he heard of his son's glorious triumph over the Afghans, Raimal, his heart filled with fatherly pride and affection, bade the Conquering Hero return home.

Back again in Chittor, and with Jaimal slain and still no news of Sanga, the old dreams of succeeding his father to the throne of the Sesodias returned to Prithvi Raj The priestess's prophecy had ever haunted his mind, but he was resolved to belie it.

* * *

One day as he went to pay his customary respects to his father, Prithvi Raj found Raimal conversing familiarly with an envoy of the Sultan of Malwa. Feeling offended at the condescension, the Prince expressed himself with some warmth. But the Rana ironically replied: "You may be a mighty seizer of kings, my son, but I am an old man and the King of Malwa is strong."

Touched to the quick by his father's remark, Prithvi Raj abruptly retired from his presence and gathering a force of five thousand horse, immediately invaded Malwa. The town of Depalpur was plundered and its Governor slain. The Sultan took the field with a far larger force but it crumbled against the furious onslaught of the fierce and hardy Rajput horsemen. Prithvi Raj swept down on the royal tent and capturing the Sultan, bore him off.

The Mandu troops started in pursuit but the Prince warned them to desist from following him, or he would instantly put the captive Sultan to death. He intended no harm and was only taking him to Chittor "to touch the Rana's feet", after which he would be restored to liberty.

When Prithvi Raj led the Sultan into Rana's presence, he had no idea whom his son had captured and enquired who the distinguished captive was. "Call your honoured friend, the envoy, Ranaji", replied the Prince, "for he will best be able to tell you who our guest is"

Great was Raimal's amazement when he realized what his son had done and in recognition of his achievement he appointed him his heir. Prithvi Raj's ambition was fulfilled "My sword at last has proved", he said to himself with pride, "that the priestess was wrong. I shall be the King of Mewar!"

* * *

But there was another man who was resolved not to belie the priestess if a crown lay in his path; Surajmal, the uncle, "whose vaulting ambition had persuaded him to believe that the crown was his Destiny and plunged him deep into treason to obtain it". Encouraged in his designs by the Sultan of Malwa and Sarangdeo, a kinsman of the royal family, who both had some old scores to settle with the Rana, Surajmal gathered together a considerable force and attacked Mewar, looting and laying waste the country for miles around. Prithvi Raj was away on some expedition

against the robber bands that infested the border land of Mewar, and the aged Raimal took the field against his traitor brother

The rival hosts met on the banks of Gambheri The rebels had overwhelming numerical superiority and after a few hours' fighting the loyalist troops showed signs of cracking when Prithvi Raj galloped up in the nick of time with one thousand fresh horse and saved the situation At sundown the battle was still undecided and the foes bivouacked in sight of each other

When night fell the daring Prince carelessly strolled over to his uncle's camp, almost unattended Surajmal was resting on his pallet, having just had his wounds sewn up by the barber As his nephew entered the tent, he rose and greeted him

"Well uncle, how are your wounds?" asked the young man

"Quite healed, my child, since I have the pleasure of seeing you", replied Surajmal who reciprocated the spirit in which the visit was made "How is Ranaji?"

"I have not yet seen him I first ran up to see you Have you got anything to eat, uncle, for I am very hungry"

Dinner was served and the two, who were such mortal enemies in battle, ate off the same platter After eating the 'pan', Prithvi Raj took his leave

"You and I will end the battle to morrow, uncle", he said before going

"Very well, my child, come early", replied the old warrior

When the battle was renewed next morning, Prithvi Raj's well disciplined troops proved more than a match for the rebels who retreated in disorder But he gave them no rest, and chased them from place to place At last thinking that the pursuit had slackened and he had far out distanced his enemies, Surajmal pitched his camp in the wilds of Baturro, surrounding it with a hastily made stockade

But determined to make his victory complete, Prithvi Raj followed him up and attacked the forest retreat at the dead of night While his men ruthlessly slaughtered the surprised rebels, the Prince sought his uncle and would have struck him down with his 'khanda' had not Sarangdeo flung himself between the two Pleading Surajmal's exhausted condition, he said "A buffet now is more than a score of blows in former days"

But the old man drew himself up with dignity and spoke,

"My child, old as I am, I would willingly fight you, but I am at the end of my journey and it matters not if I am killed, but you are the hope of Mewar; if you are slain, Chittor will fall to the invaders from the North My face will be blackened and my name everlastingly reprobated So put up your sword"

Surajmal's speech, spoken with great feeling, moved Prithvi Raj The swords were sheathed and the two clasped each other in a cordial embrace Order was given for the fighting to cease

But Prithvi Raj never spared an enemy. As the day dawned he plotted to put an end to Surajmal's life There was a small temple of Kali near the stockade to which he asked his uncle to go with him, but smelling some mischief, the astute Chief expressed inability to accompany his nephew Sarangdeo, however,

to go with Prithvi Raj and while he knelt before the Goddess in prayer, the heartless young man turned on him and chopping off his head, placed it on the altar as a sacrifice. Once again was Surajmal forced to fly for his life as terror stricken witnesses rushed to tell him what had taken place before the shrine Mounting his fleetest steed and attended by a few followers, he rode South and never again returned to Mewar.

* * *

But bad news awaited Prithvi Raj at Chittor. Sanga was not yet dead! A messenger had arrived from the Court of Srinagar, bearing tidings of the Prince's forthcoming marriage with the Raja's daughter. The priestess's words came back to Prithvi's mind and the old bitter jealousy surged within his breast "He who wields the sword, wears the crown", he said to himself and resolved to clear the road to the throne by hunting down his brother.

* * * * *

As he was on the point of starting against Sangā, Prithvi Raj received a letter from his sister, Anandi Bai, written in great grief, complaining of the barbarous treatment of her husband, Rao Prabhu Deo of Sironi, who was a slave to the habit of eating opium and whenever under its influence ill-treated his wife, beating her and dragging her out of bed, and leaving her to pass the night on the floor beneath the bedstead The princess begged to be delivered of this tyranny and restored to her paternal roof.

In response to the pathetic appeal, Prithvi Raj at once set out for Sirohi and reaching there by night, forced his way into the royal bed-chamber, where he found his sister, her eyes swollen with weeping, lying on the floor, while the drug-soden Rao lay in deep stupor on his bed. Rudely rousing Prabhu from his slumber, he was about to stab him to the heart in his rage, but the princess entreated him on bended knees not to make her a widow.

Pitting up the poniard, Prithvi Raj bade the Rao make reparation to his wife and her house by touching her feet and putting her shoes on his head. The terrified man submitted to the humiliation, as great as any husband could suffer, but there surged within him a fierce desire to make his kinsman pay for it with his life. Not having the courage to challenge the fiery Prince to a combat of arms, he meanly contrived his death by offering him poisoned sweetmeats as he mounted his horse to ride back to Kommulmer, where he lived. Thinking no evil, Prithvi Raj took them with the carelessness with which he had taken food and 'pan' from his uncle's hands after their sore fight on the banks of Gambheri. But as he came within sight of Kommulmer, the deadly drug began to take effect and he "felt his heart-strings fail". Unable to proceed any further, he sent for the fair Tara to come and bid him farewell, but so subtle was the poison that Death overtook him ere she could reach him.

* * *

Thus was the prophecy fulfilled. "There is a Destiny that shapes our ends" and it is not always that our most fondly cherished dreams come true! Prithvi Raj died without a crown to adorn his head. He could not alter the inexorable decree of Fate. After his death, Sanga, whom his murderous jealousy had forced into exile, returned and succeeded his father, who did not long survive Prithvi Raj.

SHAKESPEARE AS A WAR PROPHET

By Mr D BHANU,

D A V College, Lahore

SHAKESPEARE, you must confess, is not dead he is living with a greater vigour to day than ever His plays report about the World-War II as any good reporter would do—you can get comment as well as prophecy about any event about this war, if you care to look into his plays Sitting in his study, he saw the bombard ment from the air and the aeroplanes fighting in the sky in an age when they were not invented

> ' Fierce fiery warriors fought upon the clouds
> In ranks and squadrons and right form of war
>
> (*Julius Caesar, II,* ii)

And seeing the air raid, he enters the underground shelters

> ' Alas! the storm is come again: my best way is to creep under , there is no other shelter hereabout .. I will here shroud till the dregs of the storm be past
>
> (*Tempest II,* ii)

At last the all clear alarm is heard and he comes out of his hiding place and finds the Fire Brigade at work—removing the debris and extinguishing the fire "And quench the fire the room is grown too hot

(*Romeo and Juliet, I,* v)

Shakespeare is a great artist But that is not all He is also a prophet—he tells us all events of the war and of peace correctly and accurately, though he does not care to lay out the plans in a chronological order, he traces the World War II from the very beginning to the present day You can get every information from his plays Take up a copy of his *complete works* and accompany me on this new adventure—I hope you will succeed

Hitler comes to power and lays out his plans for the Reconstruction of Germany But Shakespeare well knowing the limitations of man, scoffs at him in the following words:

> " but man proud man,
> Drest in a little brief authority,
> Most ignorant of what he a most assur d,
> His glassy essence like an angry ape,
> Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven,
> As make the angels weep who, with our spleens,
> Would all themselves laugh mortal '
>
> (*Measure for Measure, II,* ii)

Shakespeare is always opposed to a policy of Peace at all costs" and he tries to persuade Mr Chamberlain, the late Prime Minister, in the following words to prepare for war and not to be an idealist

> This peace is nothing but to rust iron increase tailors and breed ballad makers
>
> Let us have war, say I it exceeds peace as far as day does night Peace is a very apoplexy lethargy mulled deaf sleepy insensible a getter of more bastard children than war s a destroyer of men
>
> (*Coriolanous IV, v*)

Yet he did not like to be an aggressor and always advised peace

> ' still in the right hand carry gentle peace,
> To silence envious tongues .. '
>
> (*Henry Eighth, III,* ii)

But at last the war began Germany and Russia thundered over Poland like lightning Ships began to be sunk and all other calamities of the war spread everywhere 'The Bard of Avon saw many a ship blown away and sunk He sings in praise of one such wrecked ship

> " ... a brave vessel
> Who had no doubt some noble creatures in her,
> Dash d all to pieces
> .. Poor souls, they perish d

Had I been any good of power, I would
Have sunk the sea within the earth, or ov'r
It should the good ship so have swallow'd and
The fraughting souls within her."

(*Tempest, I, ii.*)

Shakespeare sees that there is something wrong in France—Norway and Denmark have fallen——and her fall has come So he warns his countrymen.

"'Tis better using France, than trusting France"

(*Henry Sixth, IV,*)

The greatest thing we find in Shakespeare is his acute knowledge of politics·· ····· Great Britain, Russia and China are friends to-day! What Imperialist and Western Great Britain is to do with Socialistic and Communist Russia, and the Eastern and backward China? But as the Bard tell us

" misery acquaints a man with strange bed fellows.

(*Tempest, II,*)

The three countries whose idealogies are poles asunder are friends to-day and are fighting hand in hand

Modern warfare is such that no one can be termed as a civilian——everyone is involved in the war in one way or the other, directly or indirectly. And Shakespeare remarked this as long as 350 years ago

"While that the armed hand doth fight abroad,
The advised head defends itself at home"

(*Henry Fifth, I,*)

Describing the fighting qualities of the Indian troops who were responsible for the victory of the British in Africa, the poet says:

" . and give them great meals (of beef) and iron and steel, they will eat like wolves and fight like devils"

(*Henry Fifth, III,*)

The war is going on very severely in the European Theatre, when all of a sudden some signs of unrest are seen in the East. Japan is preparing to invade the British and American possessions in the East. And so the ever-vigilant guard warns the world:

"Hark! I hear their drum.
Fight, gentlemen of England, fight, bold yeomen!
Draw archers, draw your arrows to the head!
Spur your proud horses hard, and ride in the blood;
Amaze the welkin with your broken staves."

(*Richard Third, V, iii.*)

He bids the world to be ready for the attack, favours and advocates strong defence measures:

"In case of defence 'tis best to weigh
The enemy more mighty than he seems:
So the proportions of defence are filled,
Which of a weak and niggardly projection
Doth, like a miser, spoil his coat with scanting
A little cloth."

(*Henry Fifth, II, iv.*)

Then the German retreat owing to intense cold of Russia!

"Foolish curs, that run winking into the mouth of a Russian bear and have their heads crushed like rotten apples!"

(*Henry Fifth, III, ii.*)

There is complete black-out and all the lights have been put off. The wardens are strolling about in the streets. Seeing a candle burning in a house, one of them exclaims—

"But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks?"

(*Romeo and Juliet, II, ii.*)

And then the war-time scarcity and consequently the salvage:

"Let us have the tongs and the bones."

(*Mid Summer Night's Dream, IV, i.*)

And this is not all, Shakespeare is always with us, if not personally, at least through his works.

THE FUTURE OF GOLD

By Mr V R KRISHNA RAO M A

——) O (——

BEFORE the beginning of this War gold was everywhere dethroned from the proud position it held in the national economics of the world It is generally admitted that the gold standard failed after the last War, abortive attempts were made to restore and its abandonment by England in 1931 was the signal for other countries to follow suit The U S A the world's greatest creditor and the world's largest owner of the stock of monetary gold was also forced to discard the gold standard The result was that by 1934 the gold standard, in the sense it was understood for a century before the War, was dead everywhere

What are the reasons for the failure of the standard in the twenties of this century while it worked admirably well during the whole of the last century? The main reason is that the nations of the world failed to observe the rules of the gold standard which are briefly as follow (1) The maintenance of stable foreign exchange and (2) of right balance of payments In the 19th century Great Britain and France the main creditor countries at that time lowered the interest rates wherever they obtained gold from a favourable balance of payments in their international accounts and this immediately stimulated foreign lending by their nationals This released the countries losing gold from the necessity of submission to severe deflation In the twenties of this century the U S A, the main creditor country prevented the incoming gold from effecting the interest rates at home so that the countries losing gold either had to submit to a process of deflation or go off the gold standard Since the process of deflation is very painful they preferred the abandonment of the gold standard But this does not mean that gold is not at all responsible for its breakdown For a long period the international means of payment —gold—was at the mercy of the gold mining industry The scarcity of gold or its abundance caused appreciable changes in the general level of prices But it is erroneous to think that the supply of gold cannot keep pace with the growing demands of trade and industry for the production of gold which was 19½ million ozs in 1929 rose to 30 million ozs in 1939 and to 41 million ozs to day At any rate, we cannot allow the economic development of the world to become entirely dependent upon the gold mining industry

Well then the question is whether we can do without gold As mentioned above the world cannot be thrust into the alternate periods of deflation and inflation This means the formulation of an alternative method of regulating the volume of the international currency But gold cannot be thrown aside completely the U S A is vitally interested in it as she is the largest owner of the stock of gold and the British Empire too has got a stake in it as its largest producer Therefore a scheme which does not assign a definite place for gold has little chance of acceptance by these two countries Secondly to command the confidence of the people gold must be brought into the picture

But we cannot allow gold to assume its former dictatorial position; it has to become a constitutional monarch. And this is the place assigned to it by Lord Keynes' International Currency plan. The International Clearing Union according to this plan, while always obliged to buy gold at a fixed rate, is not compelled to sell it and the international currency unit—the Bancor is defined in terms of gold but its value can be altered

The American plan, on the other hand, wants to enthrone gold in its *former* position and put the world on gold standard. This is very illogical It means endless waste of economic resources in unearthing gold only to be locked in vaults of the U.S.A. Treasury. It is now acknowledged that so far as the national monetary system is concerned, there is no need for any gold and this principle must hold good in the international sphere. But gold will have to continue to play a minor role, as assigned in the British plan till the alternative means of international payment *becomes equally acceptable.*

"THERE'S NO DEFEAT"

BY DON PERRIS

—o—

The iron door clangs, the cell darkens,
And iron bars stand in the window,
Weeks pass in day's sameness, the months grow,
And from the months dreary years pass.

But hold, hold, my comrade,
Clench your fists at the hours,
Though heart's anguish devours,
Far from even me.

Why must your hands grip the bars, fellow-prisoner,
Why can't you march with the soldiers,
Out there beyond your barred-window,
There, outside, where the war is?

But you will learn how to hold here,
This bitter trial is *your* war now,
There will be time to fight later,
For—now—hold your head high.

For blood soaks our soil, oh my comrade,
And metal clangs on our songs,
They come to us on the wind,
They beat at the doors of the prison

They hammer with fists of song.
Soon our fury will smash doors of iron,
"THERE IS NO DEFEAT"

—*Polish News*

GANDHI-WAVELL CORRESPONDENCE

[The Viceroy in the course of his recent correspondence with Gandhiji makes the categorical assertion that it is impossible during the period of hostilities to bring about any change in the constitution with a view to facilitate the formation of a National Government ED *IR*]

Panchgani 14th July 1944

Dear friend

You have no doubt seen the authentic copies now published in the Indian Press of the statements given by me to Mr Gelder of the *News Chronicle* As I have said to the Press they were meant primarily to be shown to you But Mr Gelder no doubt with the best of motives gave the interview premature publicity I am sorry The publication will nevertheless be a blessing in disguise if the interview enables you to grant at least one of my requests contained in my letter of 17th June 1944

Yours etc
(Sd) M K Gandhi

New Delhi 22nd July 1944.

Dear Mr Gandhi

Thank you for your letter of 15th July I have seen the statements you made to Mr Gelder and your subsequent explanation of them I do not think I can usefully comment at present except to repeat what I said in my last letter that if you will submit to me a definite and constructive policy I shall be glad to consider it

Yours sincerely
(Sd) Wavell

Panchgani 27th July 1944

Dear friend

I must admit my disappointment over your letter of the 22nd instant But I am used to work in the face of disappointment Here is my concrete proposal

I am prepared to advise the Working Committee to declare that in view of the changed conditions mass Civil Disobedience envisaged by the resolution of August 1942 cannot be offered and that full co operation in the war effort should be given by the Congress if a declaration of immediate Indian Independence is made and a National Government responsible to the Central Assembly be formed subject to the proviso that during the pendency of the war the military operations should continue as at present but without involving any financial burden on India If there is a desire on the part of the British Government for a settlement friendly talks should take the place of correspondence But I am in your hands I shall continue to knock so long as there is the least hope of an honourable settlement

After the foregoing was written I saw Lord Munster s speech in the House of Lords The summary given by him in the House of Lords fairly represents my proposal This summary may serve as a basis for mutual friendly discussion

Yours sincerely
(Sd) M K Gandhi

New Delhi 15th August 1944

Dear Mr Gandhi

Thank you for your letter of 27th July Your proposals are —

1 That you should undertake to advise the Working Committee (a) that in view of changed conditions mass Civil Disobedience envisaged by the resolution of August 1942 cannot be offered and (b) that full co operation in the war effort should be given by Congress provided that His Majesty s Government (a) declare immediate Indian independence and (b) form a National Government responsible to the Central Assembly subject to the proviso that during the pendency of the war the military operations should continue as at present but without involving any financial burden on India

2 His Majesty s Government remain most anxious that a settlement of the Indian problem should be reached But proposals such as those put forward by you are quite unacceptable to His Majesty s Government as a basis for discussion and you must realise this if you have read Mr Amery s statement in the House of Commons on July 28th last They are indeed very similar to the proposals made by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to Sir Stafford Cripps in April 1942 and His Majesty s Government s reasons for rejecting them are the same as they were then

3. Without recapitulating all these reasons in detail I should remind you that His Majesty's Government at that time made it clear:

(a) That their offer of unqualified freedom after the cessation of hostilities was made conditional upon the *framing* of a constitution agreed by the main elements of India's national life and the negotiation of the necessary treaty arrangements with His Majesty's Government, (b) That it is impossible during the period of hostilities to bring about any change in the constitution, by which means alone a "*National Government*", such as you suggest, could be made responsible to the Central Assembly.

The object of these conditions was to ensure the fulfilment of their duty to safeguard the interests of the racial and religious minorities and of the Depressed Classes, and their treaty obligations to the Indian States

4. It was upon the above conditions that His Majesty's Government invited Indian leaders to take part in an interim government which would operate under the existing constitution. I must make it quite clear that until the war is over, responsibility for defence and military operations cannot be divided *from* the other responsibilities of Government, and that until hostilities cease and the new constitution is in operation, His Majesty's Government and the Governor-General must retain their responsibility over the entire field. So far as the question of India's share of the cost of the war is concerned, this is essentially a matter for settlement between His Majesty's Government on the one hand and the Government of India on the other, and existing financial arrangements can only be re opened at the instance of one or the other.

5. It is clear, in these circumstances, that no purpose would be served by discussion on the basis which you suggest. If, however, the leaders of the Hindus, the Muslims and the important minorities were willing to co operate in a transitional Government established and working within the present constitution, I believe good progress might be made. For such a transitional government to succeed there must, before it is formed, be agreement in principle between Hindus and Muslims and all important elements as to the method by which the new constitution should be framed. This agreement is a matter for Indians themselves. Until Indian leaders have come closer together than they are now, I doubt if I myself can *do anything to help*. Let me remind you too that minority problems are not easy. They are real and can be solved only by mutual compromise and tolerance.

6. The period after the termination of hostilities for which the transitional Government would last would depend on the speed with which the new constitution could be framed. I see no reason why preliminary work on that constitution should not begin as soon as the Indian leaders are prepared to co-operate to that end. If they can arrive at a genuine agreement as to the method of framing the constitution no unnecessary time need be spent after the war in reaching final conclusions and in agreeing on treaty arrangements with His Majesty's Government. There again, the primary responsibility rests on the Indian leaders.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd) WAVELL.

GANDHIJI ON VICEROY'S REJECTION

Interviewed by the Associated Press on the Viceroy's reply, Mahatma Gandhi said:

The published correspondence *shows that I left* no stone unturned to conform to the Viceregal requirements. The final Government reply is positive proof that the British Government have no intention of winning public support. I do not confine myself to the Congress, since its main demand has been backed by almost all political parties. So far as the technical winning of the war is concerned, they have evidently no need for such support. Moral support, they seem to despise. Boiled down, the Viceroy's proposition means that unless all the main parties agree as to the constitution of the future, and there is agreement between the British Government and the main parties, there *is to be no* change in the constitutional position, and the Government of India as at present is to be carried on. The names of the parties given in the Government reply are illustrative only. I have no doubt that on due occasions more will be exhibited as from a conjurer's bag and who knows how and when the British Government will agree to surrender control? It is as clear as crystal that the British Government do not propose to give up the power they possess over the 400 *millions*, unless the latter develop strength enough to wrest it from them. I shall never lose hope that India will do so by purely moral means . . .

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY AN INDIAN JOURNALIST

Gandhi Jinnah Meeting

GANDHIJI S acceptance of the C R formula and his forthcoming inter view with Mr Jinnah with a view to Congress League settlement regarding Mr Jinnah s demand for Pakistan has been the theme of endless controversy both in the Press and on the platform in India

Many are frankly mystified how the Mahatma who had always held that the vivisection of India was a sin could now reconcile himself to the League s demand for division Some recognise the inevitability of the move while others condemn the step as a deplorable lack of consistency and an attempt at appease ment at a heavy cost Even his erstwhile friends and some colleagues in the Congress cannot see their way to say ditto to Gandhiji in this matter There are of course well meaning critics who realise the difficulty of the situation which demands bold and drastic action but who cannot yet visualise the partition of India with equanimity Gandhiji knows better than anyone that the whole trend of our history is an emphatic declaration of the political and geographical integrity of India What then could he mean by his eagerness to make friends with the protoganists of separation? Evidently his zeal for independence is outstripping all other considerations To him the freedom of India is more pressing and urgent than any other consideration and probably he is prepared to pay a very heavy price for it But what if he fails to achieve freedom and only succeeds in dividing the country much against his own will? That fear seems singularly justified in the light of the Viceroy s categorical no to Gandhiji s modest demand for Indian freedom It looks as if the British Government do not want a settlement much less to grant even the substance of independence at any rate during the pendency of the war Nor is there much hope of their parting with power even after the war— if the statements emanating from Whitehall and Delhi are any guide to us in this matter Gandhiji fully realises that more objections will be exhibited as from a conjurer s bag and the British Govern ment will not surrender control until we develop strength enough to wrest it from them I shall never lose hope , he says that India will do so by purely moral means

Gandhiji himself always magnanimous has welcomed criticism A very very grave responsibility rests on the shoulders of Gandhiji It is hoped that he will duly weigh and consider and take due measure of the country s feelings in the matter

By passing the Political Issue

British statesmen are adepts at invent ing excuses for rejecting India s plea for freedom The eternal communal tangle has served them as a handy weapon and then there is the equally facile problem of the princes They are now trying a new weapon with which to by pass the political issue In rejecting Mahatma Gandhi s proposals for resolving the deadlock they suggest that the political issue should be shelved during the pendency of the war and that attention should be concentrated on India s economic deve lopment Is that the motive behind the sudden and vociferous demand for economic

planning? Nobody in India would underrate the importance of the economic factor in India's regeneration but to give it priority over the political issue is, as Mahatma Gandhi said, putting the cart before the horse. Indeed ever since the publication of the Bombay plan, the enemies of India's freedom have been trying to create the impression that the industrialists are more anxious for economic advantages than for political freedom. That impression must be dispelled by the emphatic and timely declarations of the industrialists themselves. "I regard the issue of Indian independence as one overshadowing all others," said Mr. J. R D. Tata, one of the signatories to the Bombay plan to Mr. Stuart Gelder of the *News Chronicle*. Sir Hormusji Mody was even more out-spoken in his comments

> Everything seems to point to a definite move in the direction of a switch over from politics to economics, and all I can say is that, if the British Government really think that India will accept economic development as a substitute for self-government, they are making another of those profound mistakes which have proved disastrous in the past The classes most directly interested in industrial expansion have made it abundantly clear that they will not barter away the right of the Indian people to be master in their own house and to take their rightful place amongst the free nations of the world

Speaking at a luncheon party given in honour of Sir Ardeshir Dalal, at the Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay, Sir Purushotamdas Thakurdas declared that

> unless national freedom in the democratic sense is achieved and the present political deadlock is resolved, it would be impossible to carry through any large and far reaching plan of economic development.

And he went on to add:

> The enormous uphill task of propaganda and education of public opinion which our plan necessarily implies cannot well be undertaken by any Government except one, which can command the confidence, and evoke the willing acquiescence, of the masses If central leadership is required for directing and carrying out such a plan, it is precisely leadership of the kind which only a democratically organized Government can throw up.

In other words it is precisely a demand for national government at the centre. No wonder that Mahatma Gandhi should express surprise that

> the representatives of the British nation, who have a long and distinguished record of heroic fight for political freedom, should divorce the economic development of India from political subjection and give the former preference over the latter.

A Case for the Editors' Conference

From Bijapur comes the report of a case of considerable importance to Editors and all concerned with conducting newspapers. The Editor of *Karnataka Vaibhava*, a local paper, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for being found in possession of what is termed illegal literature. Now a newspaper Editor's bag is a miscellany of manuscripts of every variety. And it is common knowledge that the post brings him more manuscripts for rejection than for acceptance. It is humanly impossible for an Editor to dispose of them immediately on their receipt. How is he responsible for all the unwanted and undesirable stuff that may be thrust on him? Editors cannot avoid being technically in possession of such stuff. To penalise them for this is nothing short of a cruelty from which they should be rescued. The action of the Bijapur magistrate may be technically correct but it is a fit case for the Editors' Conference to intervene. It would appear that Sir Francis Low and Mr. K. Srinivasan deposed that Editors often receive unsolicited literature of this kind. If that is so, surely it is time that a convention should be established whereby Editors of newspapers who come into possession of illegal literature in the discharge of their ordinary duties should be exempt from such vexatious proceedings against them.

Mr. Sumnerwelles on the Indian Impasse

For more reasons than one, American interest in India is decisively on the increase. Apart from the natural instinct of the American people for the cause of freedom all over the world, the presence of American boys in India adds a special zest to their plea. Though India may be a primarily British concern, the American democracy cannot completely divest itself of all interest in the ambitions and grievances of this sub-continent. Mr. Wendell Willkie made this clear in his book "One World" and his straight talk has had a wholesome effect on American opinion. Now Mr. Sumnerwelles, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, has followed up Mr. Willkie's lead with his own. In his "Time for Decision", Mr. Welles points out that it is clear that

provided the people of India and the British Government reach an agreement as to the basis on which an independent Government of India can be established, a solution for "this ever increasingly intricate and dangerous problem can be found"

Mr. Welles continues:

Such a solution will not be made easier by intemperate outpourings from Downing Street, nor equally intemperate insistence by pundits in the United States that the way to solve the problem is for British authority to remove itself bag and baggage from India between dawn and night.

Mr. Welles says he believes that the new forces of nationalism in Asia can be successfully canalised into peaceful, constructive channels

only if the powers of the world in a future international organization are willing to adopt the basic principle that no nation possesses inherent and unlimited right to dominate alien peoples.

As an American, he is averse to unwanted interference. Obviously the ideal method of a solution, he says, is through direct negotiation between the British Government and representative leaders of India. It is the method which has already frequently been adopted.

However, should these efforts continue to fail an executive council of the international organization through its agencies should stand ready to assist in composing the difficulties which might still exist. Neither Diehardism in England nor ultra liberalism in other countries such as the United States can change one salient fact, and that is that the people of India are determined to obtain self government.

Continuation of the present impasse after the war will seriously endanger the stability of all the Far East.

The independent peoples of the Far East let alone those still under alien rule, not only view the aspirations of Indian leaders with the utmost sympathy, but regard the dispositions to be made of India after the war as an acid test of the intentions of the western powers as set forth in the Atlantic Charter.

British Snobbery in India

Earl Winterton's plea for the abolition of that characteristic British institution in India and the colonies—the exclusive clubs—is a timely warning against the perpetuation of this particularly hateful piece of snobbery. More than one Viceroy or Governor has condemned the harm that these institutions do to Britain's relationship with other countries. The average Britisher may be a fine gentleman, plain spoken, warm-hearted and in spite of certain habitual reserve, altogether a lovable person. But these clubs which for no other reason than that of colour discriminate against even the best of the people are relics of a tradition that has no place in present-day society. The retention of these exclusive clubs is an unwholesome reminder of a haughty and arrogant tradition that must go. It is best they are eleminated in the interest of Britain itself. "I can personally vouch for the fact", says the Earl,

that more than one prominent Indian educated in this country and enjoying its freedom from racial discrimination has, on his return to his own country, become a bitter opponent of the British connection with India because of the existence of these British clubs.

It must be said, too, that not all English-educated men, care very much for the sort of society and habits fostered by these exclusive clubs. But that is another story.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By ' CHRONICLER '

Plan for World Security

THE head of the British and Soviet delegations to the International Security Conference at Washington announces that general agreement has been reached that the proposed organisation for peace and security should provide ' for an assembly composed of representatives of all peace loving nations based on the principle of sovereign equality "

The Council will be composed of a small number of members in which the principal States will be joined by a number of other States to be elected periodically There would also be effective means for peaceful settlement of disputes including an international court of justice for adjudication of justiciable questions and also application of such other means as may be necessary for the maintenance of peace and security

The Jap Problem

Tokyo Radio announces that following a conference between the Emperor and the Ministers the Emperor declared that the present phase of operations would determine the "to be or not to be of our Empire '

The Japanese Prime Minister, Koiso has appealed to the Japanese to cope with the unprecedently grave national crisis," according to a Tokyo broadcast He warned them "the enemy is watching for the opportunity to land on our mainland "

Australian Referendum

It is announced that an Australian referendum asking for an extension of the Government s constitutional powers for post war reconstruction work has been defeated About one million votes from the rural areas and the services have still to be counted, but it is considered improbable that they will substantially affect the defeat

New Status of Indo China

The Japanese Government has declared French Indo China an ' a u t o n o m o u s province " of the Japanese Empire and informed the Governor General, Vice Admiral Decoux, that the country is no longer a colony of the Vichy Government

The Future of Burma

Reuter understands that important proposals for the future of Burma following British re occupation are contained in a report shortly to be placed before Mr Amery the Secretary of State by the Burma Committee of the Imperial Affairs Committee of the Conservative Party. The Chairman of the Committee of seven members of Parliament set up in November last is Mr Somerset

Petain leaves Vichy

The Swiss Radio announces that the Swiss Government has withdrawn its diplomatic representatives from Vichy following the statement by Marshal Petain that he has been compelled, by violence, to leave Vichy and is therefore no longer the effective Chief of the French State.

That evidently is the end of the Vichy puppets Laval the quisling will soon be out of the picture Petain is reported to have handed over charge to de Gaulle

The Manipur Front

On the Manipur front our advance has continued in both main sectors Our forces moving along the Sittaung track eastwards to the Chindwin have reached a point some 20 miles east of Tamu, in spite of bad going and rivers in full spate Any resistance has been negligible

Along the Tiddim road our forward troops have pushed the rear guard of the Japanese 33rd Division across the Indo Burma frontier The last organised Japanese force has thus been driven off Indian soil

Yugoslav Unity

Declarations of policy by the Royal Yugoslav Government and Marshal Tito's Committee of National Liberation Yugos lavia concur in accepting the Subasic Tito Agreement of June 16 as the foundation of their common policy

The two main aims of this are: Winning of the war and reconstruction on a democratic federal basis The Govern ment recognises Marshal Tito's pro administration pending the a single administration of

DIARY OF THE MONTH

Aug. 1. Fighting is reported within sight of Warsaw.

—Gandhiji arrives in Poona.

Aug. 2. Turkey breaks off relations with Germany.

—Mr. Churchill's declaration on the war.

Aug. 3. Allies capture Myitkyina.

—Germans leave Warsaw.

Aug. 4. Mr. Jinnah, addressing Press Conference at Lahore, pleads for friendly atmosphere.

Aug. 5. Fourteenth Army crosses Burma border.

Aug. 6. Collapse of Jap resistance in Manipur.

Aug. 7. For the first time after two years India Government sell silver in Bombay market.

—German evacuaton of Bordeaux.

Aug 8. Tomasz Arciscewski is appointed President-designate of Poland in succession to General Sosnkowski.

—General Eisenhowever moves his headquarters from Britain to France.

Aug. 9. Red Army makes ready for invading East Russia.

—Allied troops march towards Paris.

Aug. 10. Russians advance towards Riga.

Aug. 11. Sir Torick Ameer Ali is appointed Adviser to the Secretary of State for India.

—Sir Firoz Khan Noon arrives in India.

Aug. 12. President Roosevelt declares that war against Japan is well in hand.

—Allies Capture Florence.

Aug. 13. German retreat in Normandy.

—Lord Halifax says that on an average 700 houses are damaged every hour by flying bombs.

Aug. 14. C. R. replies to critics and appeals to elder statesmen.

—Pandit Malaviya and Savarkar oppose Pakistan.

Aug. 15. Allies land in South France.

—Bombay-New York radio link inaugurated.

Aug. 16. New Provincial loans fully subscribed.

—Allies capture Cannes in South France.

Aug. 17. Gandhi-Wavell correspondence released.

—Gandhi Jinnah talks postponed.

Aug 18. Gandhiji on Wavell's reply.

—Allies in outskirts of Paris.

—Russian troops crossing German border.

Aug. 19. Three fast American columns are fighting their way to Paris.

—Australian referendum rejects Government request for more powers.

Aug. 20. Jap homeland bombed.

—Allies cross the Seine.

Aug. 21. Paris in armed revolt.

—Assault on Rumania begins.

Aug. 22. Russian patrols inside East Prussia.

—French troops break into Toulon naval base.

—Nazis declare Paris an open city.

Aug. 23. Paris liberated by French forces of the interior.

—Rumania accepts Soviet terms.

—The French enter Marseilles.

Aug. 24. Rumania joins Allies.

—Bordeaux falls. Allied troops take Marseilles. Lyons is liberated.

Aug. 25. The Pope receives Mr. Churchill.

—Allied troops land in Maipa island.

—American troops occupy Cannes.

Aug. 26. Russians reach the Danube.

—Allies reach Rheims.

—German forces surrender in Paris.

Aug. 27. De Gaulle shot at by French Fascists—the General not hurt.

—Laval arrested by Gestapo.

—Petain detained at Morvilard.

Aug. 28. Soviets enter Hungary.

—Ten Governors confer with Viceroy in Delhi.

Aug. 29. Anglo-Russian agreement for international security.

—Nazi troops withdraw from Bulgaria.

Aug. 30. British take Amiens.

Aug. 31. Russians enter Bucharest.

—Hungary asks for armistice.

—Gen. Montomery made Field Marshal.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OR PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT By Mr M N Roy People's Publishing House Bombay

Mr M N Roy maintains that there are two Indias and that it is absurd to talk of *Indian* freedom This time the contrasted Indias are the India of existing political parties and the India of the PEOPLE He objects to a National Government during the war as it would imperil the chance of a People's Government after the war Incidentally he notes the injustice to the Muslims involved in the immediate establishment of a National Government

The supporters of Government inaction during the war may now add to the Muslim objection and the objection of the Indian States the objection of the PEOPLE of India as represented by Mr Roy The Government should be grateful to this latest champion of their decision to do nothing during war time

THE BETRAYAL OF FREEDOM A study in Nehru's political ideas By Y G Krishnamurti Foreword by Bhulabhai J Desai The Popular Book Depot Bombay Rs 3

In this small monograph Mr Krishnamurti discusses the meaning of freedom in the light of Pandit Nehru's ideas Freedom is the one supreme passion of Nehru's life and he holds that the plato democracies have betrayed freedom and therefore betrayed man Two great influences have moulded his thoughts and shaped his destiny Soviet communism and Gandhi But as the author rightly says

> We cannot pin Nehru down either to Gandhism or Socialism In more than one way he is strangely un Gandhian He is indifferent to religion because his heart is single and he is complete in action Being a daring thinker he is not afraid of speaking now from one pole of his being and now from another

It is a thought provoking book for all its rambling and discursive exposition of a well worn theme

FINLAND UNMASKED By Otto Kunsinew People's Publishing House Bombay

Finland's participation in Hitler's suicidal war will rank as the greatest misfortune that has ever befallen the Finnish people This searching pamphlet traces the recent history of Finland and points out how its anti Soviet policy for the past 25 years inevitably landed her in a conflict with Russia and how after a short respite was once again dragged into war as a subordinate but energetic associate in Hitler's imperialist gamble We also get an account of Hitlerite Finland with its network of spies its militarisation and its political and economic exploitation It is plain that Fascist rule in Finland will not collapse unless it is overthrown by the organised effort of the Finnish people with resolute courage and supreme determination

MINIMUM WAGES By A P Singh Published by Rai Sahib Ram Dayal Agarwala Publisher Allahabad

It is a recognised fact that our factory or agricultural labour is very poorly provided for and that there is no system of any standardisation of wages in our country In this pamphlet the author puts forth a powerful plea for comprehensive legislation on an all India basis with the requisite sanction behind it for enforcement which would raise the lot of Indian workers from the present below the subsistence level He says that the present scale of wages must be raised five times in the case of the lowest grade of labour and two or three times in the case of upper grades He also elaborates the principles that should guide the fixing of minimum wages

THE INDIA CHARTER. By Jehangir Framjee Kotewal. Foreword by S. A. Brelvi. Published by author, Garden Road, Saddar, Karachi. Rs. 10.

This is yet another earnest and praiseworthy effort to solve the ever-vexing communal question and end the deadlock. Mr. Kotewal's prescription may not be agreeable to all but it will be clear from a perusal of this volume of 450 odd pages that he has tried to face the issue squarely and attempted a solution which deserves sympathetic consideration.

The plan of the book is simple. It presents the principal political parties in the country and their creeds. The case for the British Government with their promise of Dominion Status and the communal problem from various angles are presented in the words of the respective protagonists It traces the growth of Hindu Muslim differences culminating in the demand for Pakistan. And it suggests a formula for national unity based on the communal formula leading to a solution of the political problem.

The main feature of the solution is the acceptance of Pakistan in principle, namely, "the grant of freedom to Muslim-majority provinces to remain in or keep out of the Federation of United India, the concession of the same freedom of choice to Indian States and equal representation of Hindus and Muslims in all legislatures and public bodies and in the public services." The inter communal relations will be governed by a treaty of perpetual peace, the treaty to remain in force for 25 years and renewable by mutual agreement. Another novel suggestion is a declaration of voluntary renunciation by non-Muslim minorities that they will refrain from exercising their votes though their representatives could be members of legislatures and minorities.

These and other suggestions are not likely to command general acceptance but they are the fruits of patient study and earnest endeavour to find a solution. Apart from everything, the book is a mine of valuable information presenting the case for each party in the words of their own authoritative spokesmen.

CHINA AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF WAR. Published by the Chinese Ministry of Information, Chunking, China, 1944.

On the 1st of July, 1944, China completed seven years of her struggle against Japan. It first treats of the constitutional movement in China from 1898 to the present day and details the draft constitution of May 5th, 1936. Chinese courage in the Burma jungles forms the subject matter of the second chapter. Guerrilla warfare has been much developed and greatly helped even by ordinary civilians. The Chinese people have, however, borne patiently with all the worries and tribulations of the war and carry on the normal occupations of the life undisturbed. The war has increased the burden of the farmer, but has also given him further opportunities of useful productive work. The bulk of the people see in the future only an era of happiness and prosperity. Student life has become more hard-bitten.

War-time Chinese literature seems, from the account given of it, to be quite prolific and particularly interested in the development of the novel and in creating typical war-time figures.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE MODERN CHINA. By Tan Yun-Shan. Kitabistan, Allahabad

MARCHING MILLIONS. By Cyril Modak. Kitab Mahal, Bombay.

THE SOVIET CAUCASUS By David Tutaeff. India Publishers, Allahabad.

24 RUSSIAN STORIES By various authors. International Book House, Ltd., Bombay.

THE INDIAN VILLAGE. By K. S. Venkataramani, Swetaranya Ashrama, Mylapore, Madras.

ART FOR EVERYBODY. By Eric Newton. Published for British Council by Longmans, Green & Co.

LONDON CALLING THE WORLD. By Frank Singeton. Published for the British Council by Longmans, Green & Co.

MACHINES ON THE FARM. By L. F. Easterbook. Published by the British Council by Longmans, Green & Co.

BRITISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDIAN STUDIES. By Sir Atul Chatterjee and Sir Richard Burn. Published for the British Council by Longmans, Green & Co.

ON YOUTH. By V. I Lenin and J. V. Stalin Peoples' Publishing House, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.

A NEW GERMANY IN BIRTH. By M. Kumaramangalam. Peoples' Publishing House, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

THE FUTURE OF BURMA

The future of Burma is discussed by Sir Alfred Watson in an article in the weekly review *Great Britain and the East*

Emphasizing that after the economic damage resulting from ravages of war Burma's whole economic structure will have to be rebuilt from the foundation, Sir Watson says, whatever qualities the Burmese may have, that will be a task far beyond their capacity. Britain will have to find large sums for rebuilding the country If Burma is to be set on its feet and much of that money probably will be irrecoverable

The old forms of administration cannot be restored in their entirety, says Sir Watson and the Burmese will need expert help in the creation of a new machine

The best thing is to be outspoken now War and its incidents expose a great deal of nonsense sometimes talked about Dominion Status for small nationalities unable if left to themselves to provide the essentials for making Dominion Status a raciality. Burma is a case in point It may so develop its institutions that concession of Dominion Status may be made with confidence That time has not been hastened but made more distant by the events of war For a long time to come, Burma will want careful nursing if it is to be restored to health.

Changes in the form of Government are not the first consideration but the finding of plant that will be required for restoring to working the industries of Burma and equipment of land for efficient agriculture

The most substantial financial help will be necessary at a time when the whole world will be competing for assistance in rebuilding the fabric of peace It may well be that India, in its new found prosperity will endeavour to secure a firmer hold upon the productive capacity of its neighbour But any move in that direction will be unfair to the Burmese who in these years of freedom, have developed the strongest prejudice against exploitation by Indians

Sir Alfred Watson suggests that what money is immediately necessary will be sought from Britain and probably be forthcoming since it will aid export trade to the East Burma's immense undeveloped resources must be used to enrich the Burmese and the Empire he adds Evidently Sir Alfred will have us believe that Burmans welcome exploitation by British capitalists Their objection is only to Indians!

POLITICAL COOKERY

The *New Statesman and Nation*, some time ago held "Recipes of Menus of Political Cookery" competition for its readers The following entry was awarded the First Prize

Ingredients 2 or 8 religions, 500 million £5 riches 1 000 jars of military pickle, a stiff penal code (previously beaten up—the stiffer the better) remains of feudal system from the melting pot, flavour of commercial interest (quantity as desired), 1 Viceroy

How to make Mix but do not blend, the ingredients Distribute riches unevenly, leaving large portions of poverty and uneducation and keep all firmly under British Rule for 200 years Cover with White Paper and cook in hot oven with Cripps When browned off, be careful to shut all doors, as any breath of fresh air might spoil the hatch which will now show a tendency to rise Quell any rising, whether violent or not, by whipping briskly Keep at fever heat a few months longer and the hatch will then be perfect. Serve with imperial sauce Do not use any reasoning

THE MORALE OF THE FORCES

Lord Wavell, Viceroy of India declares, The final deciding factor of all engagements, battles and wars is the morale of the opposing forces" in an article written before he became Viceroy in the *Sunday Times*

"Better weapons, better food and superiority in numbers," says Lord Wavell, "will influence morale but it is sheer determination to win by whomever or whatever inspired that counts in the end

Fine feathers may make fine birds but fine battleships do not necessarily make fine sailors or we could never have dominated the Mediterranean against the greatly superior Italian fleet Study the men and their morale always When things look badly from your point of view the best tonic is to think of the enemy's troubles, you may be sure he has them too and they may be worse than yours Anyway, train yourself to think they are As I wrote once elsewhere: "The last ounce of optimism is often better general reserve than many men"

SHAPE OF PAKISTAN

The strength of Pakistan claim, says the *Guardian*, lies in the distribution of population. Economic pattern is different and adverse to it.

Should the division be made on the principle of self determination, the whip hand will pass into the hands of non Muslim communities because fertile parts will fall to their share. Voters in the plebiscite are not likely to be far seeing and will go by the population test without realising the consequences. It is the border districts that will be met most by the perplexity both on grounds of population and economic resources. The population ratios are as follows. Muslims, are 71 per cent. in Sind, Baluchistan 87 5 per cent, N-W frontier 92 per cent In the 17 Punjab districts, west of the Sutlej and Beas, Muslims range from 61 per cent to 91 per cent except Gurdaspur where they are slightly over 50 per cent . . . Six eastern districts are overwhelmingly Hindu In the disputed six border districts, neither Hindu nor Muslim nor Sikh is a majority community though the Muslims are the largest single group except in one instance

The figures are as follows

	Muslims	Sikhs	Hindus
Hoshiarpur ..	37	17	40
Jullaundor ...	45	26	18
Ludhiana ...	37	41	20
Firozepur .	45	34	20
Amritsar .	47	36	15
Gurdaspur ...	50	19	24

Sikhs have a difficult choice. They oppose the Gandhi C. R. formula and have not thus far planned the alternative of a pact such as Mr. Jinnah has called for. Entire Pakistan cannot be an absolute Muslim Raj any more than the rest of India can be Hindu. The division can last only on the basis of well-defined pacts.

FORUM

Forum was born in August, 1943 and within the space of a year has come to occupy a distinct place in weekly journalism. Its trenchant criticism and its topical illustrations have made it quite popular among Indian readers. The annual number recently issued by its alert Editor Mr. Joachim Alwa has all the variety and attractiveness of an up to-date weekly magazine. The special number publishes well merited messages of congratulation from leading men from all over the country expressing appreciation of its achievements within so short a time. We offer our own congratulations to the Editor and wish this bright and vivacious journal a prosperous career.

FREEDOM FOR ALL

Mr. Wendell Willkie in a series of articles written for the American Press, outlines the policies he recommends for the Republican Party for the forthcoming Presidential election.

Mr. Willkie recommends a five-point Republican foreign policy.

Firstly, "the immediate creation of a Council of United Nations as the first step toward the ultimate formation of a general international organisation in order that directly or by representation all peoples of the United Nations may have a voice in the political decisions that are already being made in the world." Secondly, "we should emphasise that our sovereignty is not something to be hoarded but something to be used. The United States should use its sovereignty in co-operation with other powers to create an effective international organisation for the good of all." Thirdly, tariffs must be lowered and trade barriers replaced by reciprocity arrangements Fourthly, world currency stabilization which is indispensable for the revival of world trade must be effected. 'Fifthly, and "finally, the Republican platform must state the conviction that contrary to what Mr. Churchill has said, our ideologies for which we fight have not become blurred for us in the course of fighting but have become clearer every day; and that, contrary to what Mr. Roosevelt has said, in becoming wiser we have not become more cynical We know that the sacrifice of our men and women in this war has not been made simply in order to defend ourselves against brute forces We are fighting a war for freedom. We are fighting a war for men's minds. This means we must encourage men's just aspirations for freedom, not only at home but everywhere."

END THE INDIAN DEADLOCK

The suggestion that Britain must take the initiative in seeking to end the Indian deadlock, for the initiative is not likely to come from India, was made in the *Spectator* recently by a contributor under the pseudonym "Z".

The writer, who has recently come from India, declares:

It is our business to use our best wisdom to bring Indian politics back to the plane of reason and commonsense. We are not going to succeed in doing this by merely repeating our offer of independence and calling upon the people of India to get together and frame a new constitution. We must bring them together.

In the Cripps scheme there was a plan for setting up a constitution making body, immediately hostilities should cease. Nothing would conduce more to the restoration of good feeling in India than an announcement that a representative conference on these lines was to be brought together immediately.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

THE NIZAM AND THE DEPRESSED CLASSES

"I do not recognize any community as high or low. I consider them all as equal inasmuch as they are human beings. Being educationally poor, they deserve greater consideration at the hands of my Government, especially in view of the fact that they form the bulk of my people in the State. I am pleased to hear that special attention is being paid to their educational advancement and general welfare so that they may take a proper place in a country", observed H E H. the Nizam of Hyderabad, replying to an address presented by the Depressed Classes.

The members of the Depressed Classes who met at a Conference earlier passed a resolution which expressed gratitude to H. E. H. the Nizam for granting them the Charter of their rights which is unexampled in the history of community's struggle for emancipation.

Kashmir

"NO PAKISTAN INSIDE KASHMIR"

A declaration that the Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir do not want Pakistan within the State, was made recently by Mr. Gulam Abas, presiding over the Session of the Muslim Conference Mr M. A. Jinnah, the Muslim League President, and Mr. H M. Gazdar, the Sind Minister, were seated in the pandal among the distinguished visitors.

Mr. Abas said that, so far as British India was concerned, the State Muslims favoured Pakistan and were prepared to offer sacrifices for achieving the same. He dwelt at some length on the two nation theory and stated that the Hindus and Muslims had no common race, language or history.

Referring to the Kashmir State, Mr. Abas demanded the establishment of responsible government, the abolition of the law regarding cow killing, increased representation of Muslims in the Government services and the abolition of the law about apostasy among the Hindus.

Mysore

HOUSING FOR THE POOR

A scheme for providing at least 10,000 houses for the poor and middle classes in Bangalore City will soon be implemented by Government of Mysore, with a view to relieving the growing strain on housing in Bangalore. The Central Committee of the Economic Conference under the chairmanship of Pradhanashiromani N. Madhava Rao, Dewan of Mysore, after examining the scheme, has recommended the Government for acceptance, it is learnt.

The scheme, which will soon be implemented, envisages the formation of a joint stock company in which Government, City Municipal Council, large insurance companies, co-operative institutions, employers of labour like mills and factories, etc., will all have interest. The cost of the proposed scheme is estimated to be Rs. 1,00,00,000 and the capital invested is estimated to yield the company a 6 per cent. dividend. All houses will remain the property of Government or the Municipality and will be rented out at reasonable rates. The management will be with a Board of Directors with suitable Government control.

The Central Committee has recommended that 100 houses for middle class people in Bhadravati may also be constructed immediately and later on this scheme be expanded to the other industrial towns like Devangere and Arasikere.

PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda, Minister for Local Self-Government, Mysore Government revealed in the course of a reply to the discussion on the resolution brought up by Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao in the Mysore Legislative Council recommending to the Government the introduction of the Payment of Wages Act analogous to the one in British India, that Government had been considering the scheme and hoped to bring a Bill shortly before the Legislature. The Government, the Minister added, accepted the resolution. The resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Travancore

TRAVANCORE BUDGET

Budget estimates of the Travancore Government for the coming financial year 1120 M E which were presented by Mr A Narayana Aiyar Financial Secretary to the Government at a joint session of the two Houses of the Travancore Legis lature on August 14 anticipate a revenue of Rs 582 19 lakhs—peak figure never reached in the history of the finance of the State This figure it is also pointed out is a modest estimate as revised estimate of revenue for 1119 which was placed at Rs 489 41 lakhs has already been exceeded by about Rs 1o lakhs

Expenditure in the budget for the coming year is Rs 428 83 lakhs charged to revenue leaving a surplus of Rs 103 86 lakhs which will be devoted to furthering of post war plans A sum of Rs 32 5 lakhs out of this surplus is proposed to be immediately utilised for post war reconstruction works and the balance of Rs 70 86 lakhs will be credited to post war reconstruction fund to be drawn upon in the future Revised estimate of revenue for the current year 1119 is Rs 489 41 lakhs and expenditure Rs 364 08 lakhs

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar Dewan President presided over the joint session

Recounting the measures already taken and proposed to be undertaken for the purpose of building up a fund of Rs 10 00 00 000 the Dewan said that, two years ago and in fact before the Government of India appointed a Post War Reconstruction Committee the Travancore Government had set apart Rs 50 00 000 in their budget as a nucleus for a post war reconstruction fund Last year a sum of Rs 1 00 00 000 was also assigned for the same purpose and it was expected that on account of a large increase in excise custom abkari and forest revenue and simultaneous increase of income tax revenue it would be possible to set apart over Rs 1 50 00 000 this year

In conclusion Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar emphasised that the Travancore Government would go ahead with the schemes independent and irrespective of any all India plan

Baroda

RECONSTRUCTION FUND

We expect an early victory, but let us not forget that after the victory we shall be faced with difficult problems and readjustment of our economic life Only if we have husbanded our resources will we be able to solve these questions in a satisfactory manner declared Mr B A Gaekwar Dewan of Baroda in his address to the Budget Session of the Baroda Legislative Assembly

The receipts have been estimated at Rs 8 95 lakhs and expenditure at Rs 8 94 26 lakhs The revised estimates for 1943 44 are Income Rs 8 75 lakhs and expenditure 86 8 18 lakhs

Rs 74 75 lakhs have been provided for war expenditure which includes Rs 44 15 lakhs for the post war reconstruction fund The total accretions in this fund will amount to Rs 114 15 lakhs in three years There is a general increase in the allot ments to nation building departments which amount to about Rs 63 lakhs Besides a lump sum provision of Rs 9 lakhs has been made for the administration of the attached areas The Agricultural Depart ment has been allotted Rs 12 17 lakhs as against Rs 7 38 lakhs in the revised estimates the increased provision being made for new schemes

Bikaner

FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR BIKANER

A five year programme of general develop ment of the Bikaner State costing rupees two crores has been initiated by H H the Maharaja Describing the main features of this programme in a speech at a recent dinner given in connection with his investiture as Prime Minister of the State Mr K. M Panikkar said that in order to carry it out a Development Deparment had been created under an expert Development Commissioner which had already begun to yield results especially in relation to sheep breeding and improvement of the quality of the famous Bikaner wool

Part of the programme is a vast town planning scheme prepared with the object of not only relieving congestion in the capital but of attracting as many people as possible to live under better and more sanitary conditions

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

SUPREME COURT JUDGMENT

The refusal of Licensing Officer to grant licences to an Indian for two depots for storing, receiving and distributing laundry "on the sole ground of racial discrimination" is severely criticised by Judge President Hathorn at the Supreme Court when with Mr. Justice Broome concurring, he set aside the decision of the Durban Licensing Officer and the Durban Licensing Appeal Board, who refused to grant a licence to Mr. A. K. Philip, proprietor of a laundry in Durban.

Mr. Philip's application was refused by the Licensing Officer on the ground that he was not satisfied with the locality of the premises desirable for carrying on laundry business, and the refusal was upheld by the Appeal Board.

Giving judgment on the case brought up for review, Mr. Justice Hathorn said that there was no valid reason why the application should not be granted, especially as other laundry owners were granted depot licence in the same area.

Dealing with the Appeal Board's decision, Mr. Justice Hathorn said that it took into account its own knowledge of the amenities of the locality and considered that it was unsuitable as a depot for laundry.

I regard the reasons of the Appeal Board as mere window-dressing introduced in the case for the purpose of holding up what the members of the Appeal Board must have known was a hopelessly bad decision of the Licensing Officer

The Appeal Board's decision is set aside as being capricious and the Licensing Officer is directed to issue the licence in question. The respondents are ordered to pay costs.

SETTING UP OF LICENSING BOARDS

It is learnt that the Natal Indians who had negotiated the recent Pegging Agreement with the Government are dissatisfied with the draft Ordinance Establishing Licensing Boards submitted to them by the provincial council authorities. They have now engaged legal services to prepare their own draft Ordinance which will be submitted to provincial authorities for discussion and negotiations.

U.S.A.

CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS FOR INDIANS

Congressman Emmanuel Celler labelled the Indian exclusion law "Echo of that totalitarian ideology we seek to crush" and called on the United States to erase from the statute books "malignant inferiority with which we brand the Eastern Hemisphere and Indians", addressing a public meeting in support of the legislation authorizing the United States the immigration and naturalization of Indian nationals.

Mr. Celler said such a legislation must be passed "if the sincerity of our war aims is to pass the test—placed before us by every oppressed people on this earth and who look towards the United States for justice and equality. Other speakers who responded to the invitation of India League in America were Clare Booth Luce, Senator William Langer, Louis Fischer, author, who advocated India's freedom in writings and lectures in America since he returned from India two years ago and Edgar Snow, author and correspondent.

East Africa

INDIANS IN EAST AFRICA

At a largely attended Conference of Indians in Kenya, Uganda, Tanganiyika and Zanzibar, a resolution was passed protesting against and demanding the suspension of the Regulation restricting Indian immigration as a war time measure. The resolution points out that Indian immigration in recent months has been insignificant, that from three to four thousand Indians are waiting to return to India, that the housing and food shortage alleged is purely artificial and that the Regulation is part of a concerted policy of the East African Governments against Indians in their territories. The following resolution contains:

This Conference is amazed and feels aggrieved that the Government of India should have given their consent to the Regulations so manifestly antagonistic to the interests of India and deplores that they should have given their consent without previously ascertaining the actual position of Indians in these territories with which they are not familiar and without fully appreciating the present and future implications of these Regulations on Indian immigration to Eastern Africa generally.

Questions of Importance

ELECTIONS TO LEGISLATURES

The question whether elections for the Indian Provincial Legislatures should not be held at once—' as soon, that is, as the military situation renders it safe to release the interned Congress leaders '—is raised by the *Manchester Guardian*

The Cripps offer provided for elections to be held immediately after the termination of hostilities and for a Constituent Assembly to be then elected by these Legislatures to frame a Constitution and negotiate a settlement of certain matters with Great Britain

The correspondence between Mr Gandhi and the Viceroy suggests no 'National Government is likely to be formed before military operations cease But with the end of the war coming into sight a Constitutent Assembly could get to work and might throw up leaders capable of achieving a Hindu Muslim Sikh settlement of negotiating with the British Government and of choosing representatives to speak for India in peace discussions (for there may not be a formal peace conference)

What is above all things needful is to free Indian politicians from a sense of frustration from a feeling of powerlessness and irresponsibility from a suspicion that they are being invited to argue to plead and to advise on questions already decided behind their backs and to convince them that they have here and now practical and important work to do—the power and responsibility for the shaping of the Indian future

PROF ABDUL MAJID ON THE TWO NATION THEORY

Prof Abdul Majid Khan a Nationalist Muslim of Lahore has issued the following statement to the Press

That Pakistan is not the be all and the end all of the Muslim Leaguers, that it is just a jumping off ground and that once the theory of the two nations is accepted or acquiesced in India will be turned into a veritable cockpit where the flames of fanaticism will never be put out, is amply clear from the following extracts of the speeches of Mr Jinnah

(1) "The Punjab and Bengal are spearheads and United Provinces is the heart of Islam'—Mr Jinnah's speech delivered on October 15, 1937, at Lucknow, before the 25th session of the All India Muslim League

(2) "I had an interview with Mr Jinnah when it was pointed out to me that in the scheme of Pakistan the north western and north eastern states would be connected by a corridor running along the northern border of United Provinces and Bihar"—Mr Herbert Mathews in *New York Times* of February 6 1943

(3) 'Two nations, confronting each other in every province, every town every village, that is the only solution "That is a terrible solution, Mr Jinnah It is a terrible solution But it is the only one 'Enlist India for freedom" by Edward Thompson (Edward Thompson interviewed Mr Jinnah in 1939)

(4) 'The Hindus cannot give you Pakistan The utmost they will do is to withdraw obstruction with the reasonable chance of the Hindus getting their freedom and the Muslims getting theirs The British Government can give Pakistan because they are in possession, and whether they make up their mind or not or they go on camouflaging, evading and making excuses we will have Pakistan The British Government has to get the wholehearted support of some party in this country if not of all, but every party is kept at arm's length and dissatisfied '—Mr Jinnah's speech at the Karachi session of the All India Muslim League held in the fourth week of December, 1943

C R AND THE NEW DEMAND

Mr Jinnah's organ *Dawn* has in its issue of 6th August raised the new cry of 'safety and solvency', over and above religion and community as the basis of the new Muslim states Referring to the criticism of "our Hindu friends that the bounds of Pakistan have not yet been clearly delimitated" *Dawn* observes that the obligation for doing so does not rest on the Mahomedans alone but jointly on the two communities who will have to sit together and mark the frontiers of the new Muslim sovereign state with such necessary adjustments as to make it economically self supporting and nationally solvent, in the larger sense of the term embracing all aspects of sovereignty

Mr. Rajagopalachari has been annoyed at this cry of *Dawn* and observes

If it is now thought that the conditions for an independent state are lacking in the Muslim majority areas it is good ground for advising the people at the time of the plebiscite to vote against separation or for withdrawing the demand altogether but it cannot become a reason for the extension of territory or for making other and fresh demands.

Utterances of the Day

MR. SASTRI ON THE PAKISTAN MOVE

A strong denunciation of Pakistan was voiced by the Rt. Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri at a public meeting held at Madras with Mr. T R Venkatarama Sastri in the chair. "I hate Pakistan and I hate Pakistan to such an extent", said Mr. Sastri,

that I will not agree to it at all unless the British people have passed an act in Parliament and His Majesty has given his assent to it that there will be independence given to India

I will not look at it, for, I know there are a great many things that British people can bring about to confound us and puzzle us and defeat us time and again, even though we agree to pay this price Therefore I advise parties not to agree to pay that price at all, knowing that it is an evil I feel so strongly against the steps being taken, without due consideration of the consequence and without the guarantee, before an evil step is taken, that the good we expect to counter balance is certainly in the train marching towards us for us to welcome at the station

Mr. Sastri said

Some people ask what is the alternative? I have no alternative What, if have no alternative? Have I not the right to say, 'This is wrong It is likely to lead to ruin, while it will not yield the result we want. It would have taken from us something we should not have given.' I have a right to tell my countrymen that I will divide India, it will make her weak and disunited before other nations It will ensure her subordination for ever and for ever your children will have to face daily all kinds of diplomatic and international and financial difficulties.

Mr. Sastri continued:

I insist upon saying that once we agree to Pakistan, however conditionally even when that condition is not fulfilled, we cannot withdraw it. We paid the price of an article to one party and we expect the article to be delivered by another party. We must all realise that however eminent, however fit to be worshipped as a demigod a man may be, it is not open for anybody to make an offer in the name of the country, unless he can carry the country freely and unhesitatingly with him in the offer. Upon the leader rests a great responsibility, a moral responsibility that he cannot shake off of previously assuring himself that even six million Sikhs will not oppose. I think it is a bad move on the part of Mahatma Gandhi to open negotiations with Mr. Jinnah on the footing that he took Pakistan with him as an offer Now he says he is seeking to consult everybody. Subsequent consultation in such matters is no substitute for previous consultation.

At a later meeting Mr. Sastri suggested that the question of Pakistan be submitted to a board of arbitration, consisting of a Chinaman, nominated by Gen. Chiang, a Frenchman and a judge of the Supreme Court of America, to be nominated by President Roosevelt, with the American as its head.

Mr. Sastri added that much as he hated Pakistan, he would be willing to abide by the award. . . .

Asked what he thought of Rt. Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri's suggestion that the question of Pakistan be submitted to an impartial tribunal consisting of representatives of France, China and the United States, Sir Sivaswami Aiyer said:

I do not myself like the idea of submitting the fate of our country to the irrevocable decision of arbitrators who cannot be expected to have adequate knowledge of the conditions and difficulties of the question.

MR HULL ON JOINT USE OF FORCE

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, repeatedly stressed the use of force, if necessary, to preserve peace after the war, when he formally opened the International Security Conference at Dumbarton Oaks on August 21.

It is our task here to help lay the foundations upon which, after victory, peace, freedom and growing prosperity may be built for generations to come The forces of savagery and barbarism almost succeeded in enslaving mankind because the peace-loving nations were disunited

These forces of evil now face utter defeat because at long last their intended victims have attained the unity and armed power which are now bringing victory to us. The lessons of earlier disunity and weakness should be indelibly stamped upon the minds and hearts of this generation and the generations to come. So should the lessons of unity and its resultant strength achieved by the United Nations in this war.

Peace, like liberty, requires constant devotion and ceaseless vigilance. It requires willingness to take positive steps towards its preservation. It requires constant co-operation among the nations and determination to live together as good neighbours in a world of good neighbours. Peace requires the acceptance of the idea that its maintenance is a common interest, so precious and so overwhelmingly important that all differences and controversies among nations can, and must be resolved by resort to pacific means. But peace also requires institutions through which the will to peace can be translated into action.

These foundations must support arrangements for peaceful settlement of international disputes and for the joint use of force if necessary to prevent or suppress threats to peace or breaches of the peace.

Mr. T. R V. SASTRI ON "THE DISASTROUS STEP"

The Government are obviously determined to maintain the *status quo* at least for the duration of the war, writes Mr T. R Venkata rama Sastri, opposing the division of the country

The demand for the establishment of a National Government in India has been met by the plea of Hindu Muslim differences and the absence of any *one who can take over the Government on* behalf of a United India In order to get rid of this, the plea of Hindu Muslim differences, C R desires to secure their unity at any cost even at a cost that well nigh abolishes Unity An extreme section of Muslims headed by Mr Jinnah ask for the dismemberment of India as their irreducible price for assent to *Unity!* Mr Jinnah has dismissed C. R's *proposal as a trap set for him Apparently* further concessions are under contemplation

C R says in effect Sacrifice all you can to secure unity, or, you will not solve the Indian problem for many a long day Most people feel that the result will ultimately be You have sacrificed all you can, and much that you should not sacrifice, *and still you have not secured your objective* The Minorities and the Indian States are already threat ening to take the place of Hindu Muslim differences to block our path to a solution

To many who are dumb founded by the Mahatma's assent, it seems that the major disaster that a division of India would constitute will pursue us for all time and at every turn when we are confronted by insuperable difficult es in the future as the result of this division, we shall wring our hands and *exclaim in anguish "How did so many good men* agree to so obviously disastrous a step ?

I have a suspicion that there is still in the back ground a lingering hope that when the time to take a decision arrives, Pakistan will not materialise — side by side with a resignation that, *if it did, it could* not be helped Pakistan is disastrous to Muslim interests as much as to the interests of all others and the Muslims would be unwise to insist on it But insist on it they will, in their present mood, whatever the consequences And the consequences will be, I am afraid, irretrievable disaster

Whether in internal administration of our affairs or in our relations with other countries, India divided will never be the power that we hoped she would become in the post war international world The Mahatma saw more truly and clearly when he declared it to be sin to contemplate or agree to a division of India

By a series of false steps since the rejection of the Government of *India Act 1935 to go no further* back, we have landed ourselves in the present situa tion and this last step is taking us further forward along the same line Things seem to be swiftly moving with the inevitability of a Greek tragedy towards a pre-appointed catastrophe

SIR M. V. JOSHI ON THE C. R. PROPOSALS

Sir M V. Joshi, a former President of the All India Liberal Federation, in a statement on Mr. C Rajagopalachari's proposals for communal settlement says

Pakistan is by now not a matter of reasoning with the Muslims of India but has become a matter of sentiment with them Any attempt therefore to convince the Muslims that they cannot uphold Pakistan on grounds of reasoning is not likely to induce them to change their attitude Some formula was therefore to be found out, which may possibly become a common platform for discussion between the two communities From that point of view Rajaji s formula is one such as to give a ground for further discussion between the two communities It is easy for the Hindu Mahasabha or rather communally minded Hindus to assert that Hindustan is for the Hindus at any rate, they will be the preponderating majority not necessarily riding roughshod over minorities but being in the majority, will carry weight as a majority community But neither the Hindu Mahasabha nor anybody else can give a common platform for a further useful discussion

A Muslim crying for Pakistan is as much entitled to his sentiment about it as any Hindu communalist may be about Hindustan

If a community therefore asserts its right to self determination in a particular way, there must be some way of meeting that sentiment and satisfying the same

DELHI CITIZENS' SUPPORT

One hundred and four pleaders, advocates and barristers of Delhi (Hindus, Muslims and Christians) have signed a joint statement expressing their desire for the success of the forthcoming Gandhi Jinnah meeting on the basis of self determination

The statement among other things, pledges their support for the efforts of the two leaders to achieve Congress League unity to break the deadlock and to win the National Government

MADRAS CONGRESSMEN'S VIEW

Mr C N Muthuranga Mudaliar, M L C, in a statement to the United Press, says

An informal meeting of Congressmen numbering *about 60 was held in the Madras* Mahajana Sabha Hall at my instance There was a free and frank discussion on the communal formula of Mr C Rajagopalachari and the coming Gandhi-Jinnah meeting Everybody expressed complete confidence in Gandhiji s leadership

Educational

AMERICAN PROFESSORS FOR INDIA

The possibility of American professors coming out to this country to lecture in the leading universities in India on American history and civilization and in some fields of science, is envisaged in a letter received by the Calcutta University from the Chairman, Distribution Committee, Watumull Foundation, U S A, forwarding a circular announcing the offer by the Foundation of a fellowship and ten scholarships to graduate students of Indian universities.

The University has been informed that it may take some time for applications to reach the United States and for the committee of selection to decide on them. But the Foundation is hoping to send in the meantime one or two American professors to lecture in the leading universities of India. One professor will lecture on American history and civilisation and the other on some field of science depending on the person who will be available.

The Syndicate of the Calcutta University, it is understood, has informed the Chairman of the Distribution Committee of the Foundation that the university would be glad if both the lecturers visited the university.

SACRED HEART COLLEGE

The establishment of the Sacred Heart College at Thevara is one of the greatest war time achievements in the field of education in Cochin State. The spacious and beautiful buildings of the College, which were constructed in 1943 44, satisfy, in the words of the Madras University Commission, "all requirements demanded" by the University.

In addition to the usual courses of study, the College provides instruction for the degree of Bachelor of Commerce, newly introduced by Madras University. Attached to the College, which is ideally situated on the coast, are a big hostel and extensive playgrounds. The College has been established by the Syro-Malabar Carmelite congregation, which also maintains 7 High Schools and 10 Middle Schools.

ALAGAPPA-CHETTIAR'S MUNIFICENCE

Within the short period of a year, said the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, in his recent address to the Madras University, Dr. Alagappa Chettiar has already given donations for the cause of education to the extent of over 12 lakhs of rupees. "Besides these large donations, with true insight into the needs of the less fortunately circumstanced of his countrymen, he has given a donation of a lakh and fifty thousand to the Cochin State "Feed the Children Fund", placed a lakh of rupees at the disposal of the Maharajah of Cochin for charity and war effort, has made a further contribution of more than a lakh of rupees for war charities in this Presidency, endowed a sum of rupees fifty thousand for the benefit of labourers in the Cochine State and another rupees fifty thousand for amenities to labourers besides smaller donations to various worthy objects. To the Madras University, he has already given a sum of rupees three lakhs to the Technological College started by the University at the beginning of this academic year, a gift that was as spontaneous as it was free from all conditions. It is to me a matter of pride that this large donation was contributed for the first time by an *alumnus* of this University."

NEW COLLEGES FOR BOMBAY

Eight new colleges may be started in the near future in the Bombay Presidency to meet the increasing demand for higher University education. Applications for affiliation have been received by the Bombay University and local inquiry committees have been appointed by the University to report and make recommendations.

Of these colleges, two will be exclusively for science, four arts and the rest for science and arts combined. One of the colleges which will be exclusively for women will be opened at Poona. Ahmedabad, Bijapur, Nawsari, Belgaum and Kudal are some of the other centres where colleges will be opened.

The new colleges are expected to avert overcrowding in Bombay colleges.

Legal

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LEVY OF ESTATE DUTY

The Federal Court, by a majority consisting of the Chief Justice and Justice Sir S Varadachariar, held that the Federal Legislature has no power to make "a law providing for the levy of estate duty" of the nature and with the incidence of the estate duty under the English Law They further held that the levy of estate duty of the kind above referred to is not a matter included in any of the lists in the Seventh Schedule to the Government of India Act

Justice Sir Zafrullah Khan found himself unable to express any opinion on the questions referred to the Court

The Federal Court will, therefore make a report to the Governor General in accordance with the opinion of the majority.

"NO RE ARREST OF MEN ONCE ACQUITTED"

An important decision was given by the Karachi Chief Court recently, when it ruled that accused persons once acquitted by one court could not be re arrested even if a re trial was ordered by a higher court

Of eight accused in the Pinjrapore bomb case, four had been sentenced by a Special Court, set up under the Criminal Courts Ordinance, and four others acquitted On appeal, the Federal Court invalidated the proceedings and ordered a re trial On this, the re arrest of the acquitted persons was ordered by a Karachi Court This order was recently quashed on appeal by the Chief Court

JUDGMENT IN TIRUKOILUR CASE

The Sessions Judge, South Arcot, has delivered judgment in the appeal filed by Messrs, Rajagopal Pillai and Venu Chetti of Tirukoilur, against their conviction on the charge of exhorting the public to disobey Government orders The appeal has been allowed in the case of Mr Venu Chetti and in the case of Mr Rajagopal Pillai, the conviction has been confirmed, but the sentence reduced to three months' R I

CR LAW AMENDMENT ORDINANCE

War time conditions have inevitably provided opportunities for defrauding Government on a large scale and a number of cases have unfortunately occurred in which dishonest persons have not been slow to take advantage of these opportunities, says a Press Note Government consider it their plain duty to take every possible step to prevent these practices and bring the offenders to book and it has been brought to their notice that the ends of justice have been seriously obstructed by the ability of offenders so to dispose or conceal their ill gotten gains as to avoid their eventual, recoupment to Government and thus render it more difficult to substantiate the charges against them After full consideration and consultation with Provincial Governments, it has been decided to take special powers to prevent the disposal or concealment of property procured by means of certain offences and the result is the Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance, 1944 promulgated recently, which provides powers to attach or "freeze" assets of the kind under consideration Government fully recognise the exceptional nature of these powers They believe, however, that they are justified by the emergency, and the provision of the Ordinance have been drawn with care to provide safeguards. The powers of attachment are strictly limited, their exercise has been placed in hands of the courts, and there is full provision for appeals

'BHARATA DEVI"

A notice under sub Section 3 of Section 7 of the Indian Press Emergency Powers Act, 1931, has been served on Mr S V. Swami, publisher of *Bharata Devi* demanding a security of Rs 2,000 to be deposited with the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras, for publishing an editorial in the issue of *Bharata Devi*, dated June 23, 1944, which, it is alleged contained objectionable matter described in Clauses B (B) of the sub Section 1 of Section 4 of the said Act read with sub Clauses A, E and F of the Clause 6 of Rule 84 of the Defence of India Rules.

I. L. O. & SOCIAL INSURANCE

The following is a summary of the Social Security Proposals submitted by the Permanent Secretariat of the International Labour Organisation by the 26th I. L O Conference held recently.

According to the proposals, sickness benefit should not be paid for the first few days but if sickness re occurs within a few months a fresh waiting period should not be imposed. This rate is justified by the saving in benefit and administrative expenses which result from the exclusion of insignificant illness and which enables a higher benefit or one of longer duration to be paid in cases that involve substantial loss of earnings It is suggested that benefits should preferably be continued until the beneficiary is fit to return to work, dies or becomes invalid. If, however, it is considered necessary to limit the duration of benefit, the maximum period should not be less than 26 weeks for a single case and provision should be made for extending the duration of benefits in the case of specialised diseases such as tuberculosis which often involve lengthy though curable sickness.

A woman should have the right to leave her work six weeks before and for six weeks after her confinement and during that period should be entitled to maternity benefit. This proposal is in conformity with the Childbirth Convention of 1919. The benefit is made conditional not only on absention from work but also utilisation of health services provided for mothers and infants.

A handicapped person should be expected to engage in any occupation which may be reasonably indicated for him, having regard to his remaining strength and ability, his previous experience and any facilities for training available to him. A person following a training course should receive provisional invalidity or unemployment benefit if he is otherwise qualified for it. A person for whom no such occupation can be indicated should receive invalidity benefit.

Old age is, from social insurance standpoint, a special case of invalidity. It is the age at which unemployment, if it occurs, is likely to be permanent and invalidity becomes so prevalent that to prove it at every stage is superfluous. Mingled with this attitude is the human consideration that aged persons ought to be enabled to rest from their labour after a long productive life.

NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY

The Annual Report of the National Insurance Co., Ltd., Calcutta, for the year ending December 31st, 1943, shows excellent progress.

New business written for the year was double that of previous years and amounted to 10,772 policies assuring a sum of Rs. 2,83,35,789.

In spite of this record business, the expense ratio remains low at 27·5 per cent. This, said Mr. J. Chaudari, Chairman of the general meeting of shareholders, "is due to the careful presentation of our field organization during the previous years when little business was obtainable and thus when the flow was re-established our organization was ready to deal with it with a minimum of expense."

The net annual premium of the company was Rs. 14,42,719 6 0 and the total interest income on investments was Rs. 17,94,277-7 0.

The life fund now stands to Rs. 4,19,31,271·8 5, which is an increase of Rs. 32,38,821 8 4 over the previous year.

THE UNITED INDIA

The United India Life Assurance Co., Ltd., has registered a record new business in 1943 amounting to Rs. 1·73 lakhs, which is 112 per cent. in excess of the previous year's figure of Rs. 81 lakhs. The total premium income, Life Assurance Fund and business in force figures also recorded substantial increases, being Rs. 38, Rs. 1·85 and Rs. 8·05 lakhs respectively as against Rs. 32, Rs. 1·64 and Rs 6·74 lakhs of the previous year. During the year claims by death and maturity were respectively Rs. 6·01 lakhs and Rs. 5·83 lakhs and out of this total of Rs. 11·85 lakhs, Rs. 8·50 were paid during the year itself, which speaks very well of the promptness of the Company in the disposal of claims.

INDIA'S TRADE AFTER WAR

Interviewed in connection with the view recently expressed by an American businessman that India's own war accelerated industries would be in a position to supply most of India s funda mental manufactured goods after the war and that the United States and other great manufacturing powers would have to concentrate on the development of new scientific and manufacturing fields Sir Homi Mody, one of India's prominent industrialists *told an A P I reporter*

There is no doubt that India is set fair for a considerable economic development after the war It would however, be too optimistic an assump tion to make that the whole of the industrial war gains will survive A number of small and subsidiary industries which have been newly created or expanded to meet the demands of the Fighting Services will not be able to withstand competition when normal conditions are restored and their establishment on new foundations will need much capital equipment In the matter of heavy industries also, the world shortage of capital goods will stand in the way of a rapid industrialisation of the country For some years therefore Indian demand is bound to outstr p productive capacity, and we shall continue to need a large volume of both capital and consumer goods The position must change after a few years however and a stage will be reached when the whole character of our trade with other countries will undergo a transformation, and as Mr McCorkle has said the great manufacturing nations of the world will be forced to concentrate on the development of new scientific and manufacturing fields India will still be a large importer but her requirements will be largely confined to speciality goods or to articles the manufacture of which is not possible in the country or is not justified by the size of the home market In these circumstances I think it would be a hasty generalisation to talk of any startling changes in the trend of India s trade in the immediate future

Dr John Matthai Director of Tata's, said that the statement of the American businessman needed qualifying He added

The general belief, to which Mr McCorkle gives currency, that the war has tremendously accelerated India s industrial progress is a proposition which to say the least would need a lot of proving While it is true that certain established industries have increased their production in response to war demand several new industries of fundamental importance to the country which had been projected before the war have under the stress of war condi tions, been either abandoned or been unable to reach completion My personal view is that, on a careful balance of the various factors in the situation, it will be found that unlike countries such as Canada and Austral a the war has been more a hampering than an accelerating influence in India I agree however, with Mr McCorkle that India has sufficient potential capacity to supply her basic manufactured needs

But the development of this potential capacity in the near future will depend on the amount of hard thinking and planning and concerted effort, which the Government as well as the people of the country can bring to bear on the problem It needs above all a will ngness to pull together in the national interest of which one wishes there were more signs than at present

INDIA S POST WAR OPPORTUNITIES

No task will be too small to demand my attention said Mr S K Kirpalani Indian Trade Commissioner in New York, giving an assurance that while in America he would give his unstinted service to Indian businessmen

Mr Kirpalani who was addressing the Muslim Chamber of Commerce added I am prepared to answer inquiries and give such assistance as lies in my power regarding definite orders you place for goods in America and I will of my own accord give all available information regarding trades cottage and village industries'

Mr Kirpalani pointed out that the decade after the cessation of hostilities would be most important to India Unrivalled opportunities would be presented for building heavy industries She should put forward a complete programme for obtaining capital goods, though other countries might compete

U N R R A'S TRANSPORT

The United Nations' Relief and Rehabili tation Administration is to create its own independent shipping organizaton for the transport of relief to Europe an authori tative spokesman said recently Britain will provide the majority of the vessels Britain and the U S A are also in complete agreement on the necessity for creating an international transport organization committee to take control of transport in the liberated countries and fulfil the U N R R A'S transport needs Only the military will have authority to countermand the committee s orders

Women's Page

AIM OF KASTURBA MEMORIAL

Mahatma Gandhi presided at a meeting of the trustees of the Kasturba National Memorial Fund held in Poona. Addressing the meeting Gandhiji observed in the course of his speech that he knew that critics were not wanting who considered his association with moneyed men as a sign of weakness unworthy of a votary of truth and non violence. The speaker, on the other hand, considered such association as essentially a sign of his non violence His many friends knew well the motive for his association with them. He received money from them for his many constructive activities some of which were also supremely humanitarian. They allowed him to put his hands into their pockets for the All-India Spinners and Village Industries Association and for basic education as defined by the Hindustani Talimi Sangh and other similar causes. So far as he knew, they had nothing to gain by his association with them. His contact with them took place after they had proved their success as businessmen. His mission was to convert captitalists not into mere friends and patrons of the millions of the unemployed but willing sharers of their goods with them.

Further, he had observed that some had doubted whether the funds collected would not be used for political ends. He had no hesitation whatsoever in giving the assurance that he had no such idea in view. The All-India Spinners' Association and the other bodies just referred to by him, even though initiated by the Congress, had no political character about them.

This memorial movement, Gandhiji added, had been initiated not by the Congress or Congressmen but by non Congressmen and for a purely humanitarian purpose. In a higher sense no great act done by an Indian, whether politician or not, could be without political significance. He had in mind the activities of Indians in the field of literature and science and philosophy.

A discussion followed Gandhiji's speech and his definition of the object of the Memorial Fund was unanimously agreed.

WOMEN AND RECRUITMENT

"Help us to help you by giving us the jobs we are fitted and ready to hold, that is the attitude of the progressive women of India, to the Government of India," Begum Shah Nawab, head of the women's section of the Information Department, told the press in New Delhi.

The Begum Saheba believes that recruiting for the three men's fighting services and for the W.A.C.I's and the nursing services has been and still is to some extent hampered by ignoring the part women play in all these matters.

Lack of right propaganda or of any propaganda among Indian women in regard to the war has led to a negative or an adverse attitude on the part of a great many Indian women towards the part their menfolk are taking in the defence of India," she said. "Their influence has been dangerously underrated by the authorities," she added.

"Caste and seclusion operate to some extent to prevent Indian girls from becoming nurses, but the unsatisfactory conditions in some of the Indian civil hospitals is a far greater inhibiting factor. Prominent and influential Indian women have not been given the positions they ought to occupy in the administration, and the lead they might have given to the country has been lost."

Begum Shah Nawaz, who after 20 years of work has at last succeeded in getting the Government of India to recognise the fact that less than two per cent. of Indian women now live in seclusion, has ideas about women that would be regarded as advanced in London or New York.

WOMAN ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

India's first woman Electrical Engineer, Mrs. A. Lalitha, B.E. (Honours) of the Madras University, took her degree at the convocation held recently.

She was a student member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers having practical training in E.I.R. workshops. She hails from a family of Electrical Engineers. Mrs. Lalitha is the daughter of Professor Pappu Subba Rao.

Literary

JOURNALISM IN INDIA

A note of warning against vulgarisation and commercialisation of newspapers and their utilisation for subserving personal or pecuniary ends was sounded by Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar Vice Chancellor of the University of Travancore while inaugurating a series of lectures by Mr C R Srinivasan on The Principle and Practice of Journalism at Trivandrum under the auspices of the University

The Dewan proceeded to deal with the possibilities of journalism in India and the dangers to which it was exposed on all sides by recent developments The danger that threatened British journalism he said was that of the newspaper proprietor with his economic or trade interests exercising a stranglehold on the editor making his paper no longer an index of public opinion

Many are the miracles of modern age. Of them all I should think the greatest is the modern newspaper observed Mr C R Srinivasan Editor of the *Swadesamitran* of Madras in the course of his first lecture Tracing the origin and development of the daily Press as well as the ancillary services associated with newspaper production of to day, Mr Srinivasan observed that power was vested in the Press merely as the Agent and Attorney of the people However much commercialisation might spoil the pitch laid by the pioneers the fact that the Press continued to render social service unhampered remained a redeeming feature

DICTIONARY IN FOUR SCRIPTS

The first volume of the Great English Indian Dictionary by the International Academy of Indian Culture Lahore has been published The dictionary will appear in monthly fascicules It will contain equivalents in all the main Indian languages for every word of the English language literary technical and semi technical

Every word appears in four scripts—Devanagari and Bengali for Northern India and Canarese and Tamil for Southern India

The publication of the dictionary will cover a period of ten years

Personal

LORD HARDINGE

Lord Hardinge of Penshurst former Viceroy of India died at his home in Kent on August 2 at the age of 86 He is succeeded by his son Sir Alexander Henry Louis Hardinge who was Private Secretary to the King until last year Lord Hardinge had been ill for some time and had not been conscious for some time

Lord Hardinge entered the diplomatic service in 1880 and was stationed successively at Constantinople Berlin Washington Sofia Bucharest Paris and St Petersburg In 1906 he became Permanent Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and four years later was made Viceroy of India in succession to Lord Minto When he returned from India in 1916 he again took up the post of Permanent Under Secretary of State far Foreign Affairs and was British Ambassador in Paris from 1920 to 1923 Lord Hardinge who was brother of the 3rd Viscount Hardinge was raised to the peerage in 1910

THE LATE MR JOHN MORRIS

Mr R John Morris the 43 year old Far Eastern Manager of the United Press of America died in Bellevue Hospital New York after falling from the window on the 12th floor of the *Daily News* building where the United Press has its world headquarters Under the window at the end of the corridor on the 12th floor was found a long hand note addressed to the United Press Vice President and General Foreign Manager Mr Joseph Jones asking that Mr Morris wife and mother be notified

Mr Morris returned to New York in the Spring from the Far East where he had been Manager since 1934

When the Pearl Harbour blow fell Mr Morris was in Hongkong where he covered the early stages of the attack on that city as well as the warfare in Singapore and Java He was among the last correspondents to leave Bandoeng Java During the last 18 months he was working from New Delhi and Chungking He had established the United Press service in India

Mr Morris scored an outstanding beat on the Stafford Cripps offer

ARTIFICIAL LIMBS MADE OF GLASS

Artificial arms and legs, part glass and part plastic, have been developed to replace lost limbs of American soldiers, the Associated Press reports. They are literally glass limbs, being made of individual strands of fibre glass so fine they are invisible singly. The glass imparts most unusual and desirable qualities.

The limbs are made in laboratories of the Paramount Rubber Company. The fibre glass is strong, with a tensile strength of 40,000 pounds per square inch, and is said never to squeak. It holds bolts or metal attachments firmly and resists termites and other insects, water, body acids, surface wear and changes of heat and cold. Finally, the glass limbs are given plastic coatings to simulate the colour of flesh.

One great advantage, engineers say, is that of speed of moulding. It takes an experienced craftsman 12 hours to sculpture a knee-to-ankle limb of English willow. A glass and plastic leg can be moulded in 15 minutes.

QUINIDINE

Quinidine—vital in the treatment of certain types of heart disease—has been found to be present in synthetically produced quinine. This is an important discovery, for quinidine is a very scarce drug; it is used not only in the treatment of heart diseases, but also in the treatment of malaria, particularly for patients who experience a toxic effect from quinine.

Quinidine was formerly obtained in very small quantities from quinine after a tedious process of isolation. If, however, the new discovery makes it possible to produce quinidine in large quantities, it will prove of the greatest value Experts are busy drawing up plans for the large-scale production of quinidine.

CURE FOR GOITER

A new treatment for patients with goiters enlarged by over active thyroid was discussed by Dr. E. B. Astood of Harvard University before the American Society for Clinical Investigation. Thiouracil medicine was used in nine cases. The daily dose of this medicine was discontinued after six or eight months. Two to eight months later, there was no sign of the return of the disease.

Health

MEASURES TO CONTROL AND CHECK DISEASE

The Committee appointed by the C. P. Government under the Chairmanship Dr. R. 1. Tuli, Director of Public Health, to investigate the problem of leprosy has found that the Province has roughly a population of 75,000 lepers as against only 12,500 mentioned in the Government of India's 1931 census report. The Committee has found that the incidence of leprosy is higher among the so called low castes.

Poorer economic conditions, leading to greater insanitary and unhygienic conditions of living, and the poorer state of nutrition are probably playing a part in this, says the Committee.

The Committee suggests a large number of measures to control and check the disease under the headings of isolation of patients, the opening of special leprosy clinics, the training of special medical staff, an invitation to the Government of India to locate in the C. P. the Leprosy Institute of India, suggested by the Central Advisory Board of Health and Co-ordination between Government and voluntary organisations.

VITAMIN K GIVEN WITH ASPIRIN

During the past year evidence has been accumulating that aspirin, if taken regularly over a long period of time, may cause a shortage of the clotting substance —prothrombin—in the blood and thus lead to nose bleeds or hæmorrhages. It was found that taking Vitamin K, which stimulates the blood coagulation mechanism, prevents such hæmorrhages. Recently Dr. Harry Neivert of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Columbia University in New York, reported before the New York Academy of Medicine that the administration of Vitamin K, along with the usual doses of aspirin, prevents the secondary hæmorrhages generally occurring on the sixth or seventh day following the removal of tonsils or adenoids. This suggests that wounded men in the armed forces who may require aspirin for easing pain should also be given Vitamin K to prevent oozing of wounds as a possible slowing up of the healing process.

Currency and Banking

MONETARY CONFERENCE DECISIONS

The International Monetary Conference reached a final decision unanimously on the most controversial question surrounding plans for the international monetary fund namely, the allocation of the quota of contributions to the over eight thousand million dollar monetary fund

The final result is as follows United States 2 750 (million dollars) United Kingdom 1 300 Soviet Russia 1 200 China 550 France 450 India 400 Belgium 225 Canada 300 Australia 200 Netherlands 275 Brazil 150 Czechoslovakia 125 South Africa 100

The total of the fund is 8 800 million dollars some 800 million dollars greater than the total contemplated when the fund was first planned A number of countries have reserved the attitude of their Government including France who it is understood feel their quota should be greater The others making reservations were China Egypt India New Zealand, Greece Iran and Netherlands The other quota of allocations (in millions of dollars) include Iraq 8 Iran 25 Iceland 1 Greece 40 Ethiopia 6, Egypt 45, and Liberia half million

Whereas the United States has a quota greater than Soviet Russia and the United Kingdom combined the total of United Kingdom plus Dominion quotas is only some eight hundred millions short of the United States

The International Monetary Conference rejected a proposal to allow the occupied and devastated countries to make reductions in their gold contributions to the international monetary fund The issue one of the most hotly debated in the Conference had given rise to many eloquent pleas by delegates from Russia and France

NEW PROVINCIAL LOANS

A *communique* issued by the Reserve Bank of India says

The six provincial loans of Bombay Madras the Central Provinces and Berar the United Provinces Sind and the Punjab remained open until the close of Tuesday, 15th August 1911 and were fully subscribed after a call on the underwriters for the balances not covered by public subscriptions

Railways

IMPROVEMENT OF INDIAN RAILWAYS

Work has started on the Railway Board's scheme for the expansion of the communications system of Indian Railways This is apart from the 16 crore plan for the development of the tele communications system under the Posts and Telegraphs Department

The Railway Board's scheme includes the establishment of wireless communications connecting most important railway centres with Delhi and with one another When completed this will prevent the complete isolation of railways which occurs if for any reason the telegraph or telephone system breaks down The scheme also includes improvement of the tele communications system estimated to cost two and a half crores of rupees

For the purpose of the scheme the Bengal and Assam Railway which is in the operational zone is treated as separate from the rest of the Indian Railway system Work on improving the communications on this Railway is being done by the military authorities and already the tele communications system is growing so fast that the visitor is apt to get the impression that telegraph poles are more numerous than trees in the region

For work on the tele communications system on the rest of the railway system the Railway Board has sent an officer to England to secure quick execution of indents for machinery Along with material the Railway Board expects to get the services of about half a dozen experts in the working of the most modern tele communications system in the West These experts are to work in India on a contract for one year To look after the cypher and code work on the wireless system a number of women are being trained These women are mostly the wives daughters or sisters of railway employees

For the travelling public the improvement in the communications system will be reflected in an improvement in the train service When tele communications between pairs of stations are more efficient and quicker two trains might well be run in little more time than is at present taken to run one

Art and Drama

HINDU CLASSICS

J. Mascaros, Spanish orientalist from Majorca, where he said the first Institute of Oriental Studies was founded in the thirteenth century, stressed the need for really first rate English translations of Hindu classics as a means towards better understanding between the East and the West, addressing a joint meeting of India Society and the Royal Society of Literature recently.

Deploring that so few Englishmen of letters considered it worth while to learn Sanskrit, Mascaros said that full insight into oriental culture cannot be obtained by the bulk of people in the West unless a generation of scholars did for Sanskrit what the Great Elizabethans did for Hebrew and Greek. Translations by Indians were, he opined, "sorry and sometimes amusing reading." The finest work done by Rabindranath Tagore is his own poetry and Kabir's and it was a pity he did not translate Hindu classics as it might have done a lot of good.

According to Mascaros, only a romantic approach could reveal the treasures of Hindu art and literature and it would be fatal to study them from the stand point of European classics Even simple Sanskrit words like "Samsara" "Veda" "Dinamani" and thousands of others are full of poetic beauty. Hence scholarly accuracy in translation is incapable of rendering justice to the original text. The creative imagination of a poet is necessary for the purpose, but translations at present available are so poor that none has been rightly considered fit for inclusion in either the "Oxford Book of English Verse" or Prose.

HONOUR TO SOUTH INDIAN MUSICIAN

To congratulate Vidwan K. Varadachariar, a leading South Indian musician, on the conferment of the title of Sangeetha Sastra Visaradha by the Maharaja of Mysore, a reception was held on 20th August at Egmore.

The Hon. Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Ayyar, who presided, said that few could excel Mr. Varadachariar in the science and technique of Carnatic music. Men of his ability served as beacon lights to many.

Sport

INDIAN CRICKET

That India is going to be a very formidable opponent in International Cricket when the war is over is the view expressed by Joe Hardstaff, the Notts and England cricketer, in a letter to 'Plum' Warner, Deputy Secretary of the Marylebone Cricket Club, London.

Hardstaff has seen enough of Indian cricket both as a member of Lord Tennyson's team which toured this country in the winter of 1937 and as a member of one of the fighting units stationed in this country ever since war broke out. It may be recalled that in March this year, Hardstaff scored a brilliant hundred in the Red Cross Fund match played at Bombay.

Mr. Warner in his letter to Board of Control for Cricket in India says that he had a letter from Hardstaff a few weeks ago, in which he had stated that cricket in India was of a very high standard, there being some really tip top players and he thought that when the war is over India is going to be very formidable opponent in International matches. Mr. Warner concludes by saying, "I am not surprised at what Hardstaffs says from what I saw of your cricketers in England on various tours, and I am thinking particularly of some of your batsmen, and of Amar Singh, that great all round player, whose death at an early age was so sad. May cricket continue to flourish in India."

SPORTS STADIUM AT POONA

Poona is to have a sports stadium, an institution somewhat similar to the Brabourne Stadium in Bombay. Its location will be near the junction of Tilak Road and Shapharshet Road, on a site now known as Hirabag, and, embracing an area of fifteen acres, it will provide seating accommodation for approximately 20,000 spectators, as well as residential accommodation for about 75 persons, in addition to facilities for many types of outdoor and indoor games and sport, such as Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Football, Hockey, Golf and Boating. This stadium will belong to the Club of Maharashtra, Ltd., and building work in connection with it will commence shortly.

PROF. S. CHANDRASEKHAR

Not a few Indian intellectuals have found a congenial home in the U S A. and are engaged in scientific and industrial pursuits Prof. Chandrasekhar, who has recently been honoured with the Fellowship of the Royal Society of London, is only 33 years of age.

His election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society is one the series of notable academic and scientific distinctions he has already achieved As in the case of the late Mr Ramanujam, the F R S was preceded by the distinction—unique for an Indian—of the Fellowship of Trinity College at Cambridge Last year, the New York Academy of Sciences crowned his work on stellar dynamics by the award of a coveted prize A list of the Universities, and of the learned societies in Europe and America, which had honoured Professor Chandrasekhar by an invitation to lecture before them, and shown their appreciation of his contributions in one way or other, would be a lengthy document The Harvard University was one of these, and the lecture course, he delivered at that great centre of learning, resulted in an invitation to join the staff of its well known Astronomical Observatory.

Professor Chandrasekhar, however, preferred the position he now occupies at Chicago, in view of the opportunities which it gives him of being in constant contact with the work of an active group of astronomers, at a number of observatories, including that at Yorkes.

RESEARCHES IN THE ATMOSPHERICS

An Atmospheric Research Committee has, it is learnt, been recently formed under the aegis of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Government of India, to conduct researches in upper air problems. It is stated that these researches may prove very useful in meteorological predictions, including control and guidance of agricultural operations and medium range predictions of floods.

Dr. Meghnad Saha, Palit Professor of Physics, Calcutta University, is the Chairman of the Committee and its members include Dr. C. W. B. Normand, Prof. Bhabha (Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore), Dr. Kothari (Delhi University), Dr. S. K. Bannerjee, Dr. S. M. Isaque (Aligarh University) Prof. S. Bhagabantam (Andhra University) and Dr. K Ramanathan Meteorological Department, Government of India.

A MUSICAL FILM

India's cinema distributors are about to release *Arturo Toscanini* the first documentary musical film of its kind. Filmed by the Motion Picture Division of the United States Office of War Information, the picture features the NBC Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Toscanini in a performance of the overture to Verdi's *La Forza del Destino.*

Other selections which the first night audience at "The Lighthouse" in Calcutta saw and heard on August 11, included Verdi's *Hymn of Nations* as sung by the Metropolitan Opera tenor Jan Pierce and the Westminister Choir of Princeton, New Jersey.

Bombay cinema goers, as well as audiences in other parts of India will be able to see this unusual film shortly. *Variety*, official publication of the American motion picture trade, calls it "... a stirring film ... the sound track is clear, with the chorus and orchestra in fine blend" Not only does the picture symbolise Allied unity, but it depicts Maestro Toscanini's long battle againt Fascist tyranny.

CINEMA IN SOUTH INDIA

The first anniversary of the Cine Technicians' Association of South India was celebrated at the Rangaswami Memorial Hall, Thyagarayanagar, recently when Mr. K. Ramnoth, retiring President, reviewed the progress of the cinema industry during the past year.

Mr. Ramnoth expressed the view that, judged from either the number of films released or the quality of production, there was not much for South India to be proud of. On the other hand, he said, the record was poor and disappointing. While in 1941 as many as 45 pictures were produced, in 1944 only so few as seven pictures had been released. And most of those seven pictures had taken two years and more to produce. Such a rate of progress, no one interested in the cenema industry would consider as satisfactory or creditable.

On a critical examination of the position, Mr. Ramnoth said, it would be found that those mainly in charge of the industry had done little for its development; they seemed to have no use for new talents, new stories or technique.

CARS USING ROADS IN BRITISH COCHIN

The Government of Madras, after consultation and in agreement with the Government of India and the Government of Cochin, have directed that the arrangements made in September, 1943, for the issue of composite licences for motor cars using the roads in British Cochin, Willingdon Island and the municipalities of Ernakulam and Mattancherry should, with effect from 1st July, 1944, be made also for motor cycles used in the same areas, subject to the condition that the composite tax collected at 1¼ Madras rate should be distributed between the different authorities as follows —

Madras Government, 80 per cent; Municipal Council, Ernakulam, 80 per cent, Municipal Council, Mattancherry 80 per cent, Cochin Harbour authority, 10 per cent.

Government have also directed that three-eighths of the full Madras tax should be collected from the holder of a Cochin composite licence for a motor cycle who desires to take out the ordinary Madras licence permitting the use of the motor cycle on public roads in the Madras Presidency outside British Cochin.

MOTOR CAB TARIFF

The Bengal Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 80 (2) (*e*) of the Defence of India Rules, authorised the imposition of a surcharge of annas 8 per trip in excess of the fare prescribed under Rule 179 of the Bengal Motor Vehicles Rules. It has now been found that the object of the measure has not been fulfilled. Drivers still refuse to take long distance fares, resulting in inconvenience to the public. To put matters on a satisfactory footing, Government have decided to abolish the existing surcharge of annas 8 and to introduce a revised rate of taxi fares with effect from August 15, 1944, on the following basis.

Rupee one for the first mile or part of a mile and annas 2 for every ⅛th of each subsequent mile:

A notification has been issued in the *Calcutta Gazette* to give effect to this order.

POST-WAR CIVIL AVIATION

The Government of India, it is announced, have accepted the invitation of the U.S.A. to take part in bilateral discussions of an informal and exploratory character with various Governments on Post-War Civil Aviation development, and have deputed Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai (leader), Sir Gurunath Bewoor and Sir Frederick Tymms to undertake these discussions, which began last month.

The broad aims which the Government of India wish to see achieved are as follows:

(1) They seek a world wide international agreement on a fully reciprocal basis, which will assure the freest possible development of international air navigation and air transport for the benefit of the peoples of the world as a whole, and with due regard to the rights and interests of all.

(2) They endorse the principle, already accepted by the British and American Governments, of freedom of flight and freedom to land for re-fuelling and other non-traffic purposes for all civil aircraft, including regular air transport services, on a non-discriminatory basis.

(3) They consider that the grant of commercial rights, that is, the right to carry traffic to and from another country, is better negotiated and agreed to on a universal reciprocal basis rather than by bilateral agreements.

(4) They endorse the principle, generally accepted, of the right of each country to reserve internal air services and to determine the agency for the operation of its own internal and external air services.

(5) They also endorse the principle, which is again generally accepted, of the reservation of "cabotage" traffic, that is, traffic originating in and terminating in the territory of one country, including its colonies and dependencies. For this purpose, it is accepted that India, in common with the Dominions of the British Commonwealth, is a separate country.

(6) The sovereignty of every country over the air above its territory and over the aerodromes in its territory must be fully recognized.

(7) The establishment of an international body, whose function would be to implement the provisions of the international agreement, and, in particular,

(*a*) To promote the development of air transport in the interests of the world as a whole, and to ensure that the interests of the people both of the most powerful and of the smallest countries are secured;

(*b*) To ensure the safe and orderly development of air navigation by the co-ordination of technical systems and rules.

TECHNICAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The employment of a greater number of Indian technicians and scientists in industrial concerns as [the utilisation of the raw materials of this country would greatly depend upon the researches carried on by scientific workers here was advocated by Sir Azizul Haque Commerce Member of the Viceroy s Executive Council addressing the annual general meeting of the Geological Mining and Metallurgical Society of India held at Calcutta on August 19 Sir Cyril Fox presided

The Commerce Member emphasized the absolute importance of throwing open to qualified scientists and research workers suitable avenues of profitable employment in industrial concerns in this country and drew special attention to the fact that if the right type of persons was to be attracted to this line it was essential that the question of their remuneration for such work should be considered as an integral part of our post war scheme of industrial development

He referred to the effort that had been made so far for the industrial develop ment of India for safeguarding the interests of this country in the post war period

FUTURE OF MACHINE TOOL INDUSTRY

Several requests have been received to the effect that the Machine Tool Mission headed by Sir William Stanier which is now in India should discuss and advise on the post war development of the machine tool industry in this country says a press *communique*

While the purpose for which the Mission has come to India is to examine how the best use can be made of the machine tools with which ordnance factories the defence services and the railways have been equipped for war purposes the Mission are willing to examine the progress that has been made in machine tool manu facture in India and they will consider whether they can advise on how this industry can be developed on sound lines

DITHANE—INSECTICIDE AND FUNGICIDE

A new method of rendering plants immune to the ravages of insects and fungi is reported from New York The discovery which may prove to be of far reaching importance to farmers and vegetable growers is a chemical compound known as dithane and its full name is diethylenesodiummisdithiocarbonate

It is claimed that dithane when it is sprayed directly on the ground is absorbed by growing plants and causes death to all attacking insects Recent field tests it is said have demonstrated dithane is equally effective in combating plant fungus In one area fields sprayed with dithane are said to have yielded a potato crop exceeding by 25 to 100 bushels in an acre the yield of fields sprayed with ordinary fungicides The new chemical is described as harmless to plants and non toxic to man It would probably be available commercially shortly

WASTE LAND FOR CULTIVATION

A proposal for an order under Rule 80B of the Defence of India Rules in order to increase the cultivation of food and fodder crops on the waste land in the province, is now under consideration of the Government of Bengal

Rule 80B *inter alia* provides that the Central or a Provincial Government may require any person in possession of waste land to bring it under cultivation for the purpose of growing any specified crop and that if such person fails to comply with the order the Government can settle that land with any other person for the same purpose

GRASS AS FOOD

Speaking at the Food Education Society s Conference in London 70 year old V J Branson who lives on grass advocated the value of grass as food and said that he had been asked by the War Office to instruct commandoes how to eat grass I cycled to Scotland to do so It took me eight days and I ate grass on my way he said

Mr Branson would not disclose whether he succeeded in inducing the commandoes to take to grass eating

Labour

INCENTIVE IN PEASANTS TO WORK

Mr. Horace Alexander, in an article entitled "Planning for India," in the *Manchester Guardian*, says. "What is needed is a real incentive to working in the minds and bodies of millions of Indian peasants. The Peoples' Plan goes to the root of the matter by demanding the nationalisation of the land as the first step forward. Whether or not that is politically possible in the immediate future, it can be fairly confidently stated that none of these plans will get out of paper into the soil unless and until, the peasants see themselves freed from their present burdens of indebtedness and of incredibly complex land tenures, leading often to wholly uneconomic fragmentation of holdings while the vicious circles of malaria, ignorance, debt and fatalism hold people in a deadly grip."

The writer adds: "It is idle to propound schemes looking to huge increases of industrial workers have some incentive to put their whole heart into the work. Better housing, better food, higher wages will help, social security, and some kind of partnership in industry will also be needed"

MR. DANGE'S APPEAL TO BE WORKERS

At the London Trades Council meeting at which 470,000 London's workers were represented, Mr. Dange, President of the A.I.T.U.C., speaking presented a picture of the chaotic economic conditions in India and urged upon the British workers the need for taking steps so that political change could be made possible and they could handle Indian problems. He said, "Indian workers are whole heartedly anti-Fascist. They have faith in victory and in the future. Only a Government that has the confidence of the people can carry on effective rationing and price control. That means the Indian National Government." He ended with a confident note that "during and after war, the international working class will be so powerful that India will be liberated."

General

MADRAS CITY EXTENSION

The Government have approved tentatively the proposal of the Corporation of Madras to extend the limits of the city to include certain portions of surrounding areas, as recommended by the Commissioner, and approved by the Council on April 11. The area includes portions of Adyar, Guindy, Sembium, Old Mambalam, Kodambakkam, and Aminjikarai. The object is to relieve congestion in the city, and effectively to control public health in these areas incidentally safeguarding the health of the city from infection.

LORD SOMERS

Chief Scout, Lord Somers, died at his home at Eastnor Castle, Hertforshire, on July 14 He was 57.

Lord Somers joined the Scout movement 25 years back and in 1911 was made Chief Scout in succession to Lord Baden-Powell. Lord Somers was formerly Captain in the 1st Life Guards serving throughout the last war.

TWO MORE V C'S FOR INDIAN SOLDIERS

Two more Indian fighting men, a jemadar and a sepoy, have won the V. C. They are the Indian Army's ninth and tenth V. C.'s of this war.

The Ninth Indian Army V. C. is Jemadar Abdul Hafiz, Ninth Jat Regiment, who wins the award posthumously for gallantry near Imphal He is the first Muslim to win the V. C. in this war.

The Tenth Indian Army V. C. is Sepoy Kamal Ram, Eigth Punjab Regiment. He wins the award for bravery in Italy.

MR. SADANAND'S APOLOGY TO GANDHIJI

In reply to Gandhiji's letter of July 18 Mr. S. Sadanand writes as follows in the issue of *Free Press Journal* on July 22: "My apologies are due to Gandhiji for:

(1) Not accepting his amends to the Nationalist Press unreservedly, and

(2) for suggesting in the *Free Press Journal* that he had been deflecting from his path by Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar, Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, Mr. K. M. Munshi, Mr. G. D. Bila and other public men of their school thought.

I ask Gandhiji's forgiveness for the offence that I have given him."

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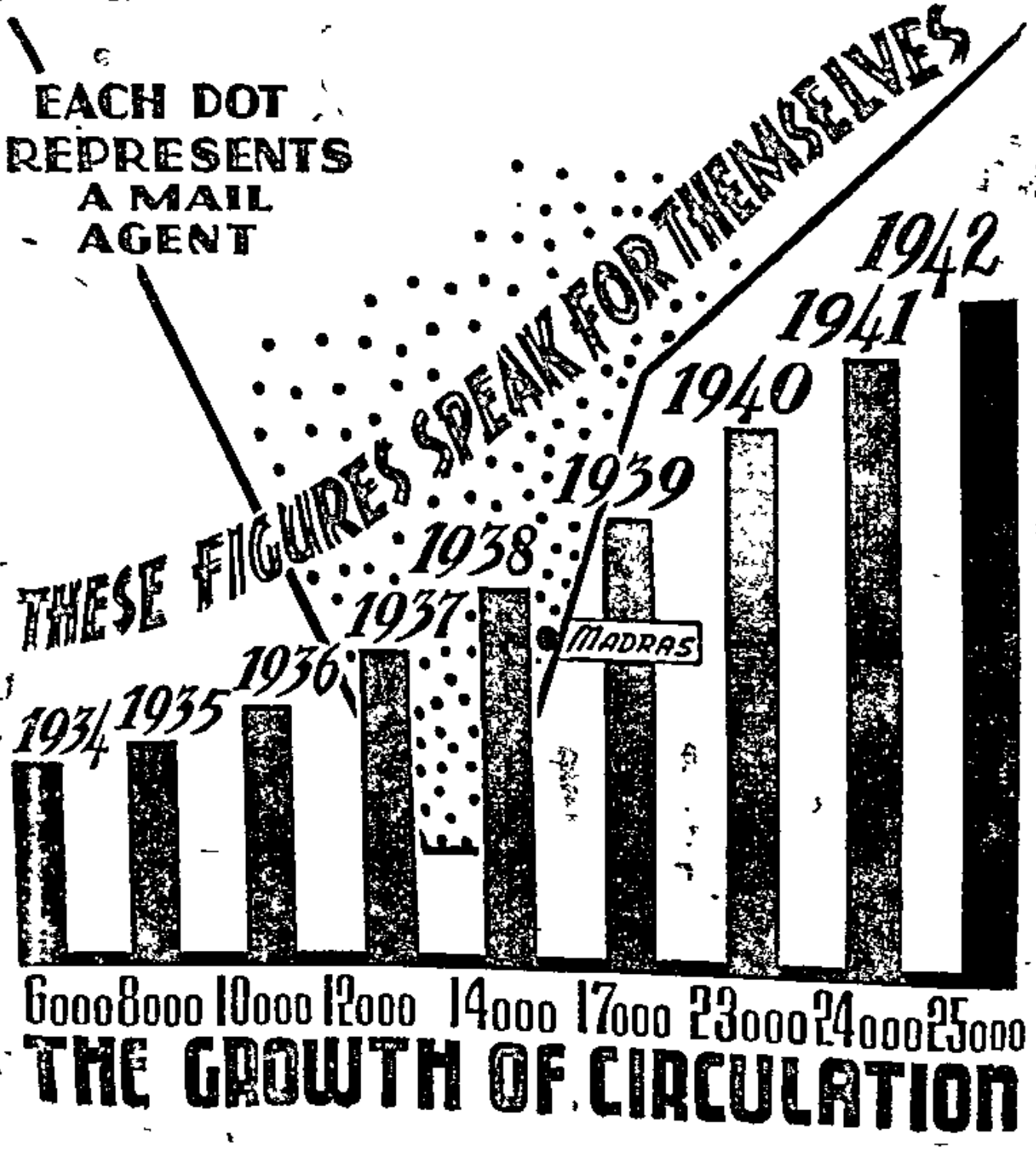
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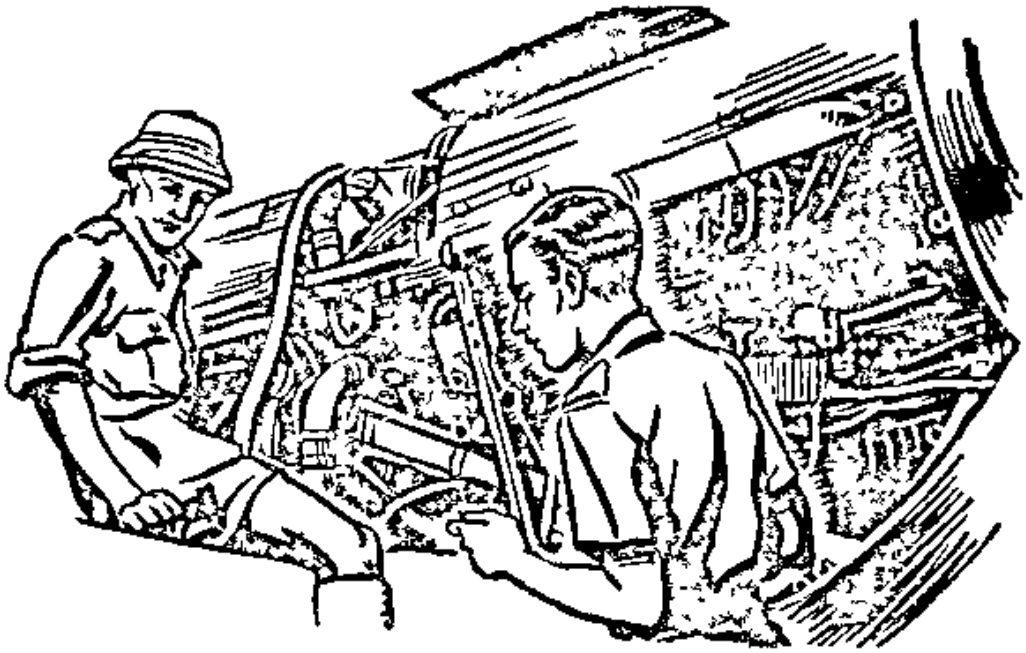
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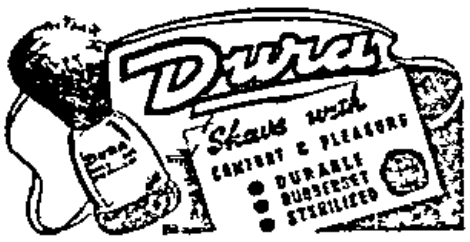
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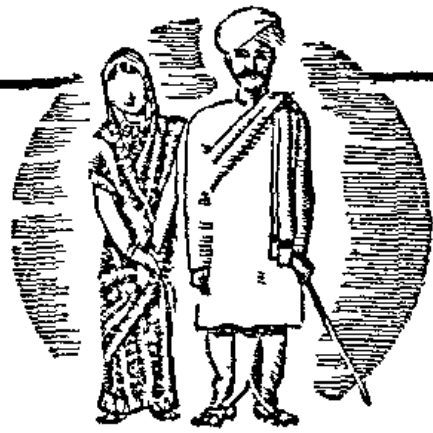
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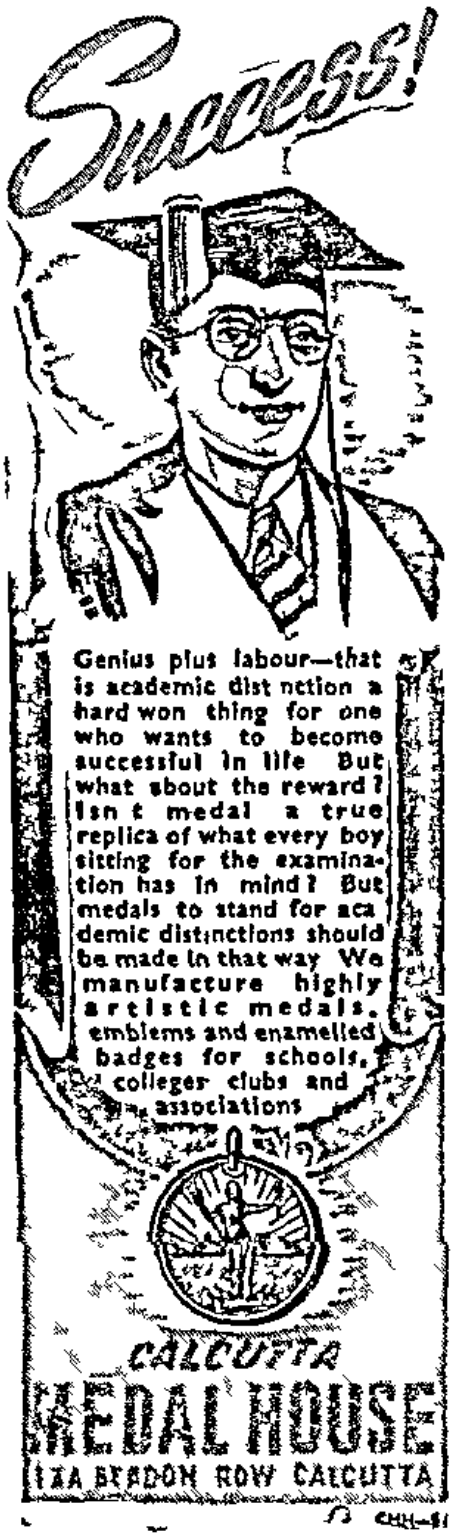
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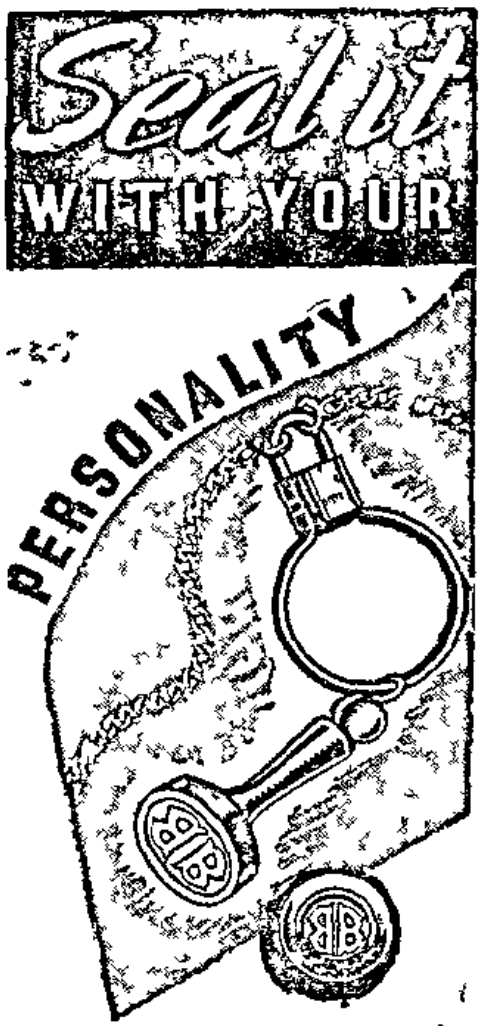
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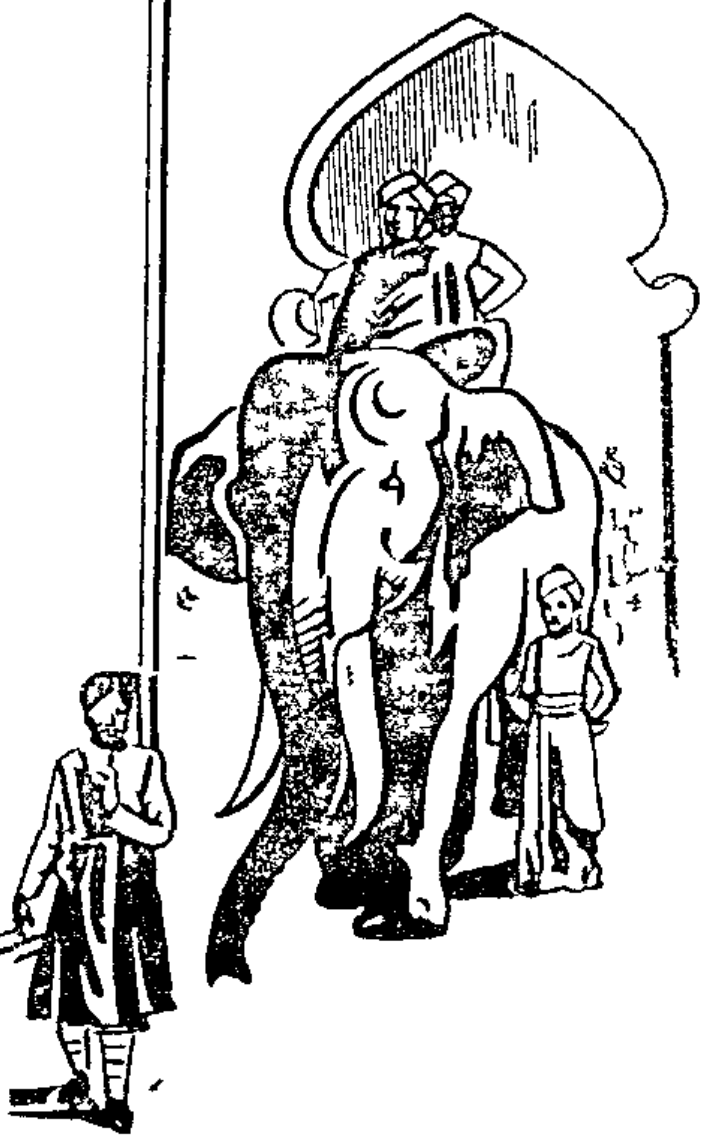
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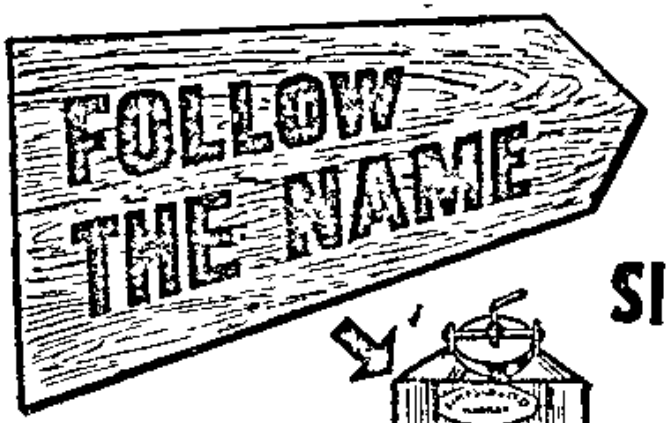
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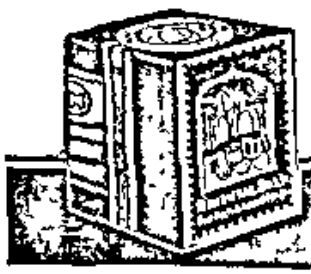
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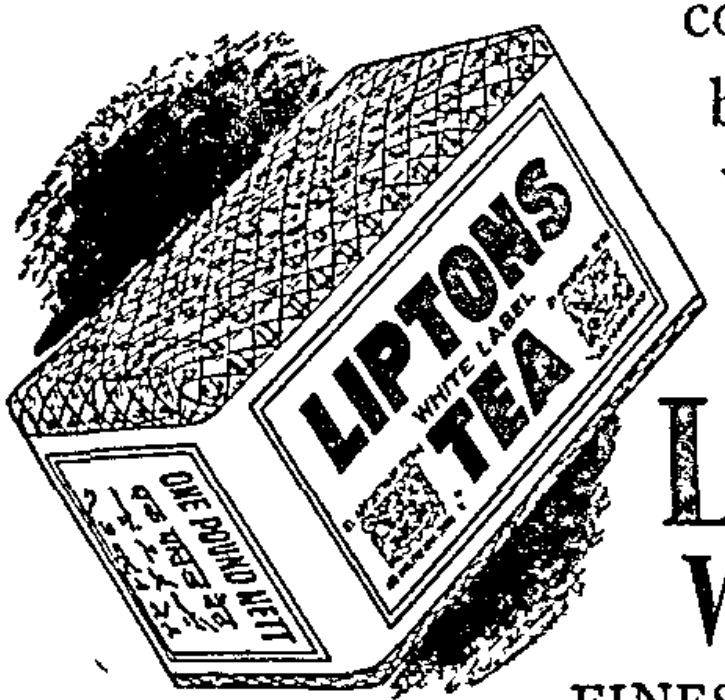
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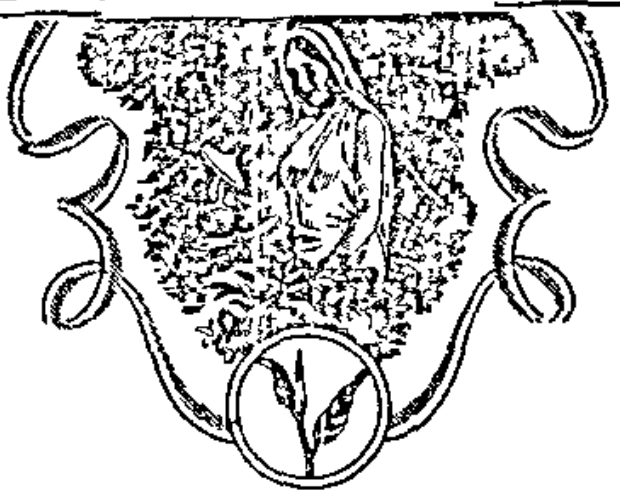


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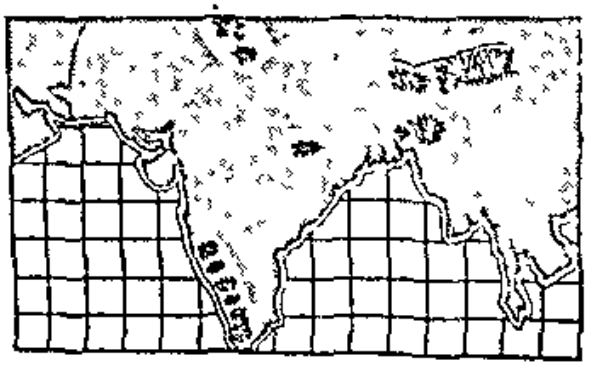
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My Reminiscences of Mahatma Gandhi*

By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

THOUGH my acquaintance with Gandhiji dates almost from the beginning of the Indian struggle in the Transvaal under his lead, now over four decades ago, I came to know him personally only since his return to this country in 1915 after the completion of his labours in South Africa. As Secretary of the Indian South African League in Madras, it was my privilege to be in frequent correspondence with him. Gandhiji was carrying on with the help of his compatriots a tremendous campaign of passive resistance to laws which were enforced with all the rigour and vigilance of the Boer Executive But these laws, Gandhiji felt, were invidious and designed to brand our countrymen with the "bar sinister of inferiority" Gandhiji had too high a notion of British citizenship and the rights that should go with it to allow this shameful state of things to continue unchallenged. And so, pitting his soul force against the might of the South African Government, he waged what might be called a relentless crusade against the obnoxious laws. In this great task, his countrymen in the colony almost to a man, gathered round him, inspired by faith in the justice of the cause. They followed him with implicit trust in his leadership. What a leader and what a following! The thin, emaciated, little pigmy of a man marching at the head of a great procession of Indians of all communities and diverse occupations—Gujarathi tradesmen, Madrassi hawkers, artisans from the United Provinces and Bengal, peasants from Bihar and Assam, men and women of all faiths, rich and poor alike, prepared to follow his lead loyally unto the ends of the earth! Forsaking all comforts, home and property, they braved privation and the terrors of the prison and courted suffering with a cheerfulness and fortitude that were truly infectious. The mother country watched this great drama with bewildering anguish and pride and tried to render what little moral and material help she could render to her children abroad, so bravely vindicating her honour. As Gokhale once said, "Mr. Gandhi was making heroes out of clay." Yet with characteristic modesty, Gandhiji wrote to me from Johannesburg at the height of the struggle in July, 1910:

> We derived inspiration for all the work that we have endeavoured to do here from the great leaders in India. I do not think therefore that there is any occasion to exaggerate the merits of the passive resisters.

Though with habitual modesty he refrained from making any mention of his own part in the struggle, he never could forget the glorious part played by his followers who had undergone infinite trouble and hardship. "The wonder is", he wrote to me, "there has been so little grumbling."

> The credit is all due to the men who are fighting so nobly, so bravely and so uncomplainingly.

The story of the South African struggle and the part played by Gandhiji and his compatriots have passed into history and there is no need to recount it here. But I must quote the noble words of Lord Hardinge, if only to show how profoundly the government, no less than the people of this country, were moved by the stirring episode in South African history:

> Recently your compatriots in South Africa have taken matters into their own hands, by organising what is called passive resistance to laws which they consider invidious and unjust, an opinion which we who watch their struggles from afar cannot but share. They have violated, as they intended to violate, those laws with full knowledge of the penalties involved and ready with all courage and patience to endure those penalties. In all this they have the sympathy of India—deep and burning—and not only of India, but of all those who, like myself, without being Indians themselves, have feelings of sympathy for the people of this country.

Gandhiji was the soul of this movement and it was left to a great Christian divine, Bishop Whitehead of Madras, to assess the true measure of his leadership in the great struggle:

> I frankly confess, though it deeply grieves me to say it, that I see in Mr. Gandhi, the patient sufferer for the cause of righteousness and mercy, a truer representative of the Crucified Saviour, than in the men who have thrown him into prison and yet call themselves by the name of Christ.

* * *

* Contributed to the Commemoration Volume issued on Gandhiji's 75th Birthday.

Thus Gandhiji's fame had reverberated from end to end of the empire and a right royal welcome awaited him when he landed in Bombay in January 1915. Gandhiji had always a warm corner for Madras and the many Tamils who had made common cause with him. He was never tired of praising their heroism and steadfast loyalty and it was just like him to seek out the friends and relatives of these village Hampdens—people in humble circumstances living in remote villages unknown unheeded. He arrived in Madras one fine April evening accompanied by his wife. There on the platform was a strong contingent of leading citizens waiting with garlands to welcome them and a great cheering crowd had gathered outside the station waiting for *darshan*. Gandhiji in those days was not so sparsely dressed as now. He was wearing his white homespun in true Gujarati fashion and his head was draped in a prodigious turban. The two alighted from a third class compartment with a bundle of clothes as though they were no more than a family of poor peasants come to see the city from the interior. It was all so unlike what was expected of the hero of a hundred adventures in a far away land. It was my privilege to be his host. In spite of all that we had read of him we had no precise idea of the utter simplicity of his way of life. With due care and many consultations and anxious thought for his comforts I had furnished his apartments in my office premises in Esplanade with what seemed to me the minimum requisites of decent accommodation—two cots a cushion chair a table and a desk. When I showed him his rooms he stood gazing for a while and then burst into a loud laugh. He asked for the removal of the cots and the rugs covering the floor and all furniture from Kasturbai's quarters. They preferred the bare unfurnished rooms—and not until these emblems of luxury were removed would he make himself at home.

* * *

The citizens of Madras gathered to do honour to the Gandhis on their home coming at a great demonstration held at the Victoria Public Hall on April 21. Dr. Sir Subramanya Ayyar presided and I recollect reading an eloquent message from the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Madras President of the Indian South African League conveying his deep sympathy with the meeting to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Gandhi who had carried on their noble struggle in South Africa on behalf of their fellow countrymen and won their admiration for the courage endurance self restraint and self denial which they had displayed throughout that great struggle. As Secretary of the League it fell to me to read the address which was couched in beautiful terms.

> In the ample roll of those that have served this common motherland of ours few can rival and none can excel you in the record of the things accomplished. You embody to the present generation the godliness and profound wisdom of the saint. Mrs. Gandhi is to us the incarnation of wifely virtue living and for her husband and following him like a shadow in plenty and in poverty in joy and in tribulation at home in gaol and on the march etc.

Gandhiji's reply to the address was remarkable for its earnestness and simplicity. For the first time we heard him speak on a public platform he who has lived to sway hundreds of thousands of his countrymen by the magic of his presence and voice. There was no thunder in his eloquence no passion nor demonstration in his utterance. The voice was even and the manner grave and the words fell with simple grace and dignity. But there was something in the speech that went home to the hearts of the listeners as no finished oratory could do. And when he passed on to recount the exploits of the brave martyrs from Madras the effect was tremendous.

> Sir if one tenth of the language that has been used in this address is deserved by us what language do you propose to use for those who have lost their lives and therefore finished their work on behalf of your suffering countrymen in South Africa? What language do you propose to use for Nagappan and Narayanaswamy lads of seventeen or eighteen years who braved in ample faith all the trials all the sufferings and all the indignities for the sake of the honour of the Motherland (Cheers). What language do you propose to use with reference to Valliamma that sweet girl of seventeen years who was discharged from Maritzburg prison skin and bone suffering from fever to which she succumbed after about a month's time? (Cries of shame)

It was the Madrassis who of all the Indians were singled out by the great Divinity that rules over us for this great work. Do you know that in the great city of Johannesburg, it is considered among the Madrassis to find a single Madrassi dishonoured if he has not passed through the jails once or twice during this terrible crisis that your countrymen in South Africa went through during these eight long years? You have said that I inspired these great men and women, but I cannot accept that proposition It was they, the simple minded folk, who worked away in faith, never expecting the slightest reward, who inspired me, who kept me to the proper level, and who compelled me by their great sacrifice, by their great faith, by their great trust in the great God to do the work that I was able to do (Cheers) It is my misfortune that I and my wife have been obliged to work in the lime light, and you have magnified out of all proportion (Cries of No, no') this little work we have been able to do

"They deserve the crown which you would seek to impose upon us", he continued·

These young men deserve all the adjectives that you have so affectionately, but blindly, lavished upon us It was not only the Hindus who struggled, but there were Mahomedans, Parsis and Christians, and almost every part of India was represented in the struggle They realised the common danger, and they realised also what their destiny was as Indians, and it was they, and they alone, who matched the soul force against the physical force. (Loud applause)

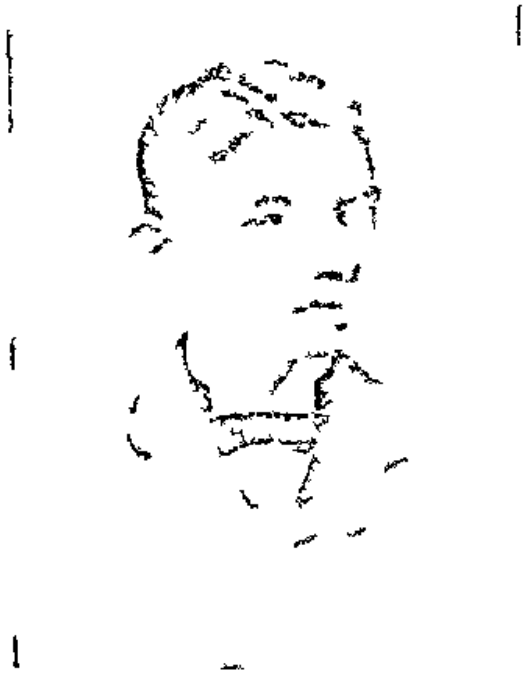
It was a new experience for Madras: the words were few, but thrilled us through and through. There was not much in the manner, but a great deal in the matter of his speeches. He seldom repeated second hand opinions and his views on every subject were refreshingly original. Whether he spoke in denunciation of anarchical crimes or on loyalty to the British Raj, there was always something out of the common, and the attractive turn he gave to his thoughts was a perpetual surprise to his audience. He brought a fresh mind to play upon the problems of the old country and his solutions were a continual surprise. "As a passive resister," he said, proposing the toast of the 'British Empire' at the Madras Law Dinner at which I happened to be present,

I discovered that a passive resister has to make good his claim to passive resistance, no matter under what circumstance he finds himself, and I discovered that the British Empire had certain ideals with which I have fallen in love, and one of those ideals is that every subject of the British Empire has the freest scope possible for his energies and honour, and whatever he thinks is due to his conscience I think that this is true of the British Empire, as it is not true of any other Government (Applause). I feel, as you here perhaps know, that I am no lover of any Government and I have more than once said that that Government is best which governs least. And I have found that it is possible for me to be governed least under the British Empire. Hence my loyalty to the British Empire (Loud Applause).

* * * *

But I must pass on to an yet more interesting phase of his sojourn in Madras. While staying with me in my house in Thumbu Chetty street, he brought with him one day a panchama boy whom he called Naicker. Now, with all our sympathy for the untouchables and our earnest desire to improve their lot, with all our academic advocacy of equality, we are not always equal to the task of actually adsorbing a panchama into our household. But with Gandhiji action must correspond with aspiration and utterance. And so, all unconscious of the novelty of his act, Gandhiji took the panchama boy right into our house, whose inmates, including my old mother—rigidly orthodox in their way of life—were horrified by the "desecration". Only a couple of years before, I had presided over a Depressed Classes Conference in Madras and condemned strongly the treatment meted out by the higher classes to the untouchables. Gandhiji had read my speech and must have naturally concluded there could be no difficulty in bringing the boy into my household. Frankly, I was in a fix—respect for Gandhiji and his opinions pitted against my affectionate regard for the susceptibilities of my old mother! The situation was truly ironic. Gandhiji, realising the queer posture of affairs, set about in his own quiet and effective way to deal with it The opportunity presented itself when Naicker fell ill and hour by hour Gandhiji was to be seen sitting by the side of the patient and nursing him back to health. This quiet action was more eloquent than any amount of preaching, and I discovered that my old mother was steadily reconciling herself to the new situation. The transformation was wrought almost silently and Gandhiji referred to it in one of his letters to me:

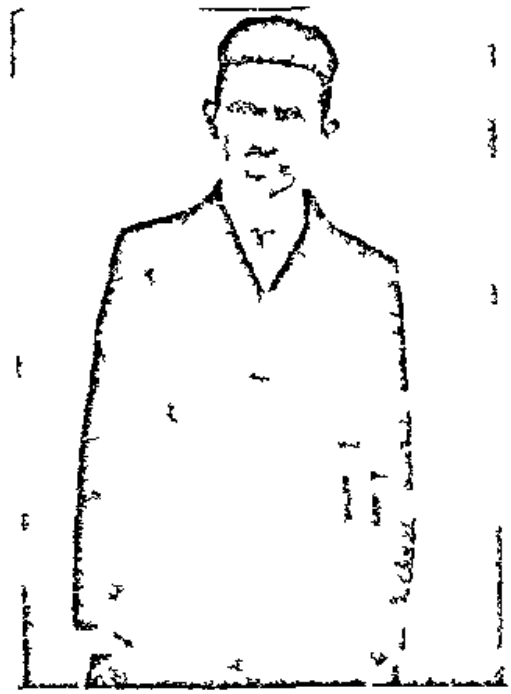
You saw how nobly she behaved over Naicker. You doubted your ability to carry her with you.



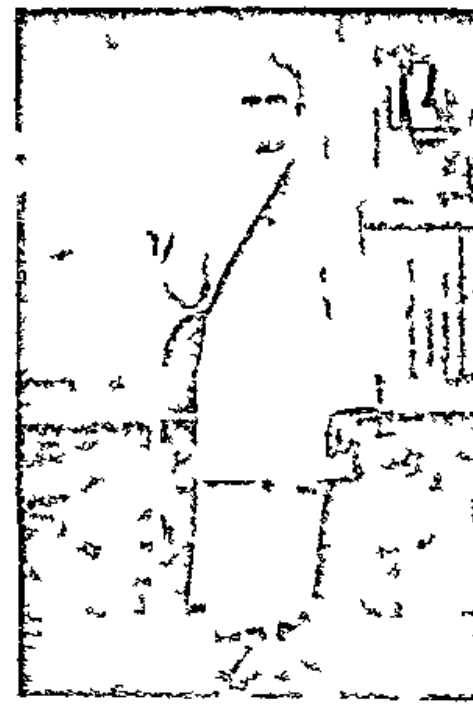
GANDHI as a Law Student in London



M K GANDHI Bar at Law



GANDHIJI IN SOUTH AFRICA



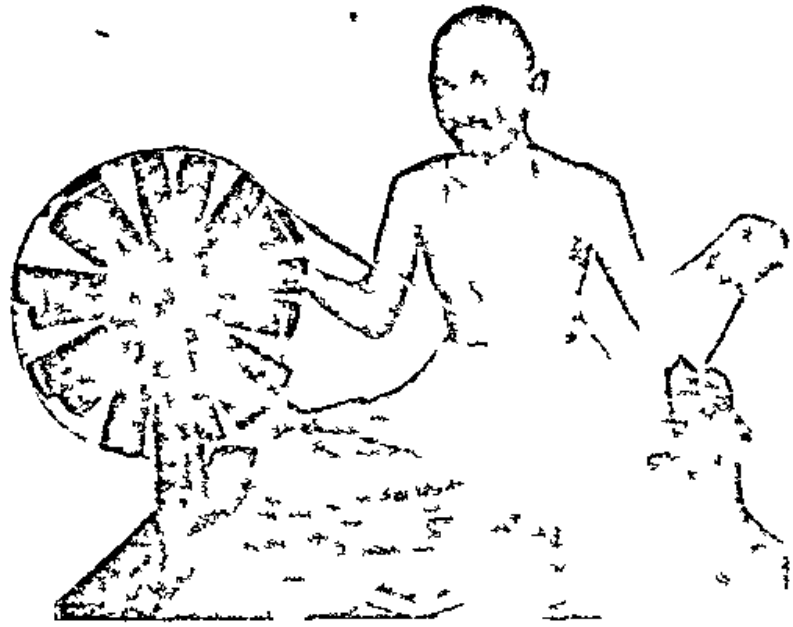
GANDHIJI IN 1914 leading the Passive Resistance movement in Transvaal



M K. GANDHI in 1915, when he finally returned to India after a short sojourn in England



MR AND MRS GANDHI in MADRAS. MR. YAKUB HASAN and MR NATESAN Secretaries, Indian South African League.



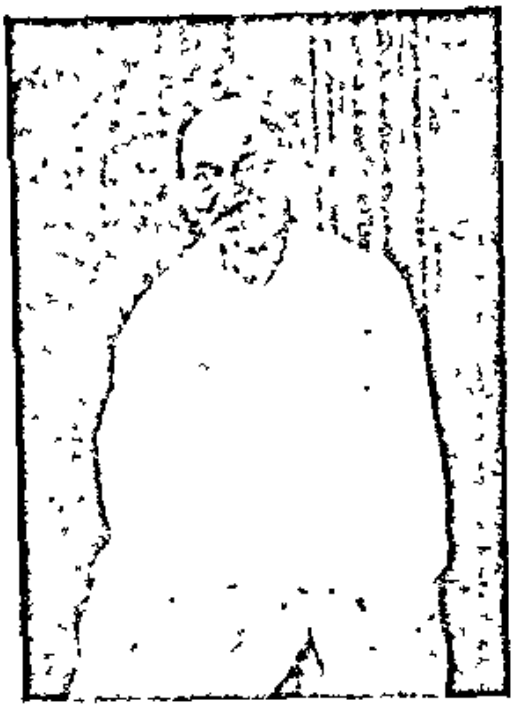
THE MAHATMA AT THE WHEEL



A SCENE OF GANDHIJI'S OPERATION [illegible] HOSPITAL, POONA [illegible]



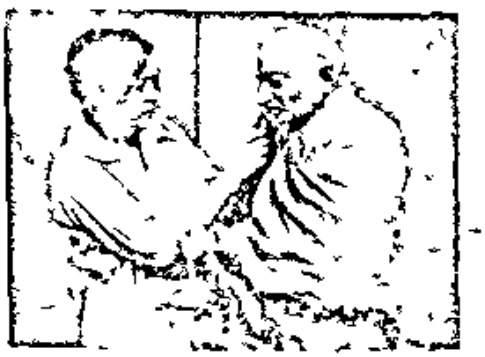
GANDHIJI—DANDI MARCH, April 1930



MAHATMA GANDHI in LONDON, 1931



Mahatma Gandhi accompanied by Mira Bai (Miss Slade) visiting Dr. Howlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury.



GANDHI BUST
By Clare Sheridan

It is a habit into which we reformers have fallen—never to think of beginning with our own homes. We now find it difficult to mend ourselves

I think such experiences were at the back of his mind when he made the then sensational speech on Brahmins and Panchamas at Mayavaram He uttered some hometruths in that centre of ortho doxy, which provoked a bitter controversy But on the question of untouchables there could be no compromise We know how locked up in Yeravda jail, he began to combat the forces of reaction in the country in his own spiritual way Like the saints of mediæval India Gandhi gave pathetic expression to the deep moving cry

I do not desire to be born again but if I am really born again I desire to be born amidst the untouchables so as to share their difficulties and to work for their liberation

That has been his consistent position The ban against untouchability is one of the cardinal points of the *Satyagraha* pledge as of the conditions of *Swaraj* But a leader of Gandhiji's type could not be content with mere declarations of faith or eloquent expositions of principles

* * *

Some incidents of equal significance linger in my memory after the lapse of so many years I remember accompany ing him to the house of the great patriot and journalist Mr G Subrahmanya Ayyar who in spite of a dire disease and much suffering, continued to do his bit for the country Ayyar expressed the country's pride in Gandhiji's doings and referred mournfully to his own lot—as one disabled by a gruesome disease to be of any use to the country He burst into tears as he lamented his helpless condition Gandhiji consoled him by saying that he had done great work for the country and there was no cause for lament So saying he began at once to wipe off his sores with the end of his garment I and the friend Mr (now the Rt Hon Dr) Sastri who witnessed this extraordinary scene, were deeply moved

* * *

I must say a word about the way Gandhiji has brought up his boys Never believing in the efficacy of present day education he kept his sons free from any such 'taint'. Gandhiji, with all his endless occupations, undertook to teach his sons himself Devadas, now holding a responsible position in the world of journalism, has had no school or college learning but was content to be self taught Serving his great father under the same roof is a liberal education in itself In his case at any rate, it is fully justified I remember Gandhiji sending Devadas to Madras to stay with me to do propaganda for Hindi in 1918 'I do not want him to be with a Gujarati family', he wrote He has to learn Tamil and teach Hindi". That is the Gandhi way of education Devadas should take care of himself If he fell ill it was his fault Once, on hearing of his illness in my house, he wrote to me

I had hoped that Devadas would not behave quite so indecently as to fall ill

* * *

I recollect also an incident connected with another son of his—Manilal Manilal, his second son (now editor *Indian Opinion* South Africa) was an inmate of the Satyagraha ashram which Gandhiji had founded As an ashramite he was bound by the rules of the ashram Now the rules forbade the owning of private property It would appear that Manilal had a small balance in the Savings Bank before he joined the ashram A brother of his who was away, wrote to Manilal for some money and the latter, with the double object of helping his brother and disposing of that un authorised money, withdrew it from the bank and sent it away to him In due course the receipt came to the ashram—and to Gandhiji's hands That a son of his should so far forget the discipline of the ashram as to be guilty of owning private money to be used at his pleasure was to Gandhiji's mind a crime which should be expiated by proper penance Notwithstanding the boy's explanation and his mother's pleading Gandhiji insisted on sending him out of the ashram

This was revealed to me by Manilal when one night he turned up at my residence in George Town and presented his father's letter, in which, among other things Gandhiji had stated that Manilal

should be subjected to severe discipline and should be made to cook his own food and learn spinning.

* * *

Yet another incident, which I can never forget. During their stay in Madras, I found Mrs. Gandhi in a disconcerted mood on more than one occasion. I brought this matter to the notice of Gandhiji. He did not pause for a reply, but forthwith told me that it was of her own making. "She wants me to give her money for buying costly clothes for her grand children". I jocularly observed that he was a cruel husband. Quick came Gandhiji's retort. "Look here, you are hard on me, it is a question of my forsaking my principles if I begin to yield to her wishes in these and other matters. She knows full well my views and is quite acquainted with my way of living. I have more than once implored her to live away from me and save herself from the discomforts and live happily with her children. But she would not. She, like the faithful Hindu wife, insists on following me wherever I go". That is just like Gandhiji the disciplinarian for all his habitual tenderness.

* * *

Another incident which I recall is Dr. Besant's invitation to Gandhiji to visit her headquarters at Adyar. We were received on the beautiful grounds of the Theosophical Society and entertained with gracious courtesy and charm. Gandhiji had the highest respect and admiration for the venerable lady who had so completely dedicated her life to the service of the country. Dr. Besant conducted the distinguished guest through the splendid hall and the well furnished apartments and then led us on to an unpretentious shed in the neighbourhood which was the school for the Untouchables. Now, Dr. Besant was in a sense, a pioneer in the matter of affording facilities for the education of the Panchamas. But to Gandhiji, the contrast between the palatial residence for one set of people and the mean quarters for another was too much to be tolerated.

He felt it so poignantly that he decided on changing the programme for staying there for the night and insisted on returning to his quarters in George Town. I remonstrated with him and pointed out, among other things, that it would cause deep pain to Dr. Besant and that she would be seriously annoyed with me also. But all this was in vain. Gandhiji was firm in his decision. Late in the night, he bade adieu to the quarters in Adyar.

* * *

I have always thought that one of the most beautiful friendships of our time was that between Gokhale and Gandhiji. Gokhale was only three years his senior: yet, Gandhiji always regarded him as his political Guru, and in spite of obvious differences in temperament and outlook, they continued to hold each other in the highest esteem. It was beautiful to observe the way they refused to see anything but the best in each other. To Gandhiji, "Gokhale was the gallant and selfless paladin to whom the whole of India looked up as her noblest son". Gokhale's reaction to Gandhiji was characteristic: "Only those who have come in personal contact with Gandhi as he is now can realise the wonderful personality of the man" said Gokhale. ("He is without doubt made of the stuff of which heroes and martyrs are made." ("In all my life", he went on to add:

> I have known only two men who have affected me spiritually in the manner that Mr. Gandhi does—our great patriarch Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji and my late master Mr. Ranade—men before whom not only are we ashamed of doing anything unworthy, but in whose presence our very minds are afraid of thinking anything that is unworthy

That is high praise but not a bit over-drawn. But Gokhale had a shrewd suspicion that Gandhiji, owing to long absence from India, had perhaps idealised certain phases of Indian life, and he commended a year's travel and observation as a useful corrective—advice which was scrupulously followed. Gokhale, who perhaps hoped to see him as his successor at the head of the Servants of India Society, was evidently disturbed by the very advanced views which Gandhiji had expressed in the then proscribed pamphlet *Hind Swaraj*. Though at bottom the two leaders were one in their passion for service to their country and their ascetic

devotion to duty it was clear that the way of the constitutionalist brought up on the pure milk of British liberalism was not exactly the way of the downright revolutionary who had drawn his inspiration from Tolstoy and Thoreau Gandhiji sensed the feeling of the members and decided not to embarrass them With a delicacy and magnanimity all his own he refrained from joining an organization which at his time of life and with settled views he was bound to affect rather than be affected by it In 1920 a similar problem confronted him in connection with the Home Rule League and he frankly sought the advice of friends in these terms

> They have asked me to join the All India Home Rule League I have told them that at my time of life and with views firmly formed on several matters I could only join an organisation to affect its policy and not be affected by it This does not mean that I would not now have an open mind to receive new light I simply wish to emphasise the fact that any new light will have to be specially dazzling in order to entrance me

What wonder then the Congress which he joined ultimately is now so completely affected by his teachings that it may well be called Gandhi Congress Congress and Gandhi have become synonymous

Speaking of the transformation which the Congress has undergone since Gandhiji joined it I may mention the talk I once had with him He used to attend regularly the Subjects Committee meetings at every session of the Congress but sit almost mute I asked him

How is it you are mum and take no part in the deliberations of these Committees? His answer is still ringing in my ears Frankly Natesan these gatherings and discussions make no appeal to me It is all between the intellectuals and the so called educated people I find in the organization little or no appeal to the masses If the Congress is to be what it ought to be something must be done to enable it to touch the hearts of the masses and a new and dynamic force should be brought into play Every one knows how fully this has been realised since Gandhiji joined the Congress He introduced the system of four anna members and the Congress sessions being held in remote rural areas with facilities for the masses to attend in large numbers Thus only could the imagination of the people be roused

And though he had differences with Dr Besant he used to speak in glowing terms to me of the way she had galvanised the country into activity by her Home Rule League organisation

These and many other incidents crowd into my memory but I must stop at this stage and try to bring these rambling reminiscences to a close

* * * *

Thirty years have passed by since Gandhiji left South Africa after concluding a settlement with Gen Smuts It was by no means the end of all troubles Year after year fresh troubles were brewing and our nationals still sustained by Gandhiji's inspiration have met the situation with the same dignity and firmness Gandhiji and in fact every one knew it could only be a partial settlement and yet we had to make the best of a bad job Attempts to segregate Indians and legislation incited by racial intolerance have threatened our countrymen from time to time But they have all been met with the same old courage and determination Even a world war of this magnitude in which Indians and South Africans have fought shoulder to shoulder with Britishers has made little difference in the attitude of the white settlers to Indians Gen Smuts who has known Gandhi so well and fought and negotiated with him is now the supreme head of the South African Governemnt He too succumbs to the exigencies of the general election and gives to party what is meant for the world Witness his countenancing a legislation so barefacedly iniquitous as the Pegging Act that has provoked such a storm in recent months Instead of downright refusal as becomes a leader of his status and character he merely postpones consideration and in the mean while gives his sanction to manoeuvres to circumvent the situation What are Enquiry Commissions and Licensing Boards but tactical steps to get over an awkward predicament? I recall in this connection Gandhiji's prophetic words addressed to me in a letter dated Tolstoy Farm 31st May 1911 soon after the Gandhi Smuts agreement He wrote

The settlement has gone beyond our expectations. We did not expect to be able to save individual rights. These have now been fully protected. *But we are by no means out of the wood.* Gen Smuts has to translate his promises into legislation. This, however, there is little doubt, will be done, unless Gen Smuts has no regard whatever for his reputation *The danger therefore lies not in the likelihood of his breaking his promise, but in his passing other legislation affecting adversely the position of domiciled Indians.*

The fact is, as Gandhiji now realises, and has so often said to his compatriots in South Africa, only a free India could be of real and effective service to her nationals abroad. More and more the conviction is forced upon us that so long as the mother country is not free, so long must our countrymen beyond the seas be prepared to suffer all indignities and humiliation The freedom of India is therefore the first step in maintaining our rights abroad

* * * *

That brings me to a consideration of the most momentous of our problems—the freedom movement in this country, which is also the last and greatest of Gandhiji's struggles. This is no place to discuss this great thesis in the abstract. The problem of Gandhi is ultimately the problem of *Swaraj*. There is no shirking it. Mischievous and malignant propaganda against a great and good man can do no good. They may have some temporary or initial advantage but in the end will prove no better than Goebbel's fables. The silly talk about Gandhiji being pro-Japanese or a fifth columnist was silenced by no less an authority than Field Marshal Smuts. In a Press Conference in London, the South African statesman took upon himself to make it clear beyond doubt that

it is sheer nonsense to talk of Gandhi as a 'Fifth Columnist.' He is a great man. He is one of the great men of the world and he is the last person to be placed in that category. He is dominated by high spiritual ideals. Whether those ideals are always practicable in our difficult world is another question.

"We are all friends of the British", wrote Gandhiji in one of his letters to H. E. Lord Wavell only the other day from his place of detention in the Aga Khan's palace:

We are all friends of the British however much we may criticise the British Government and system in India. If you can but trust, you will find us to be the greatest helpers in the fight against Nazism, Fascism, Japanism and the like.

* * *

One of the most singular characteristics *of Gandhiji is his freedom from malice.* Gandhiji has suffered much, but not all the trials and imprisonments could embitter him. He could harbour no ill-will, least of all against Englishmen. "What has impressed me most", said Mr. Andrews, has been his unlimited patience. Even now, when he has again been imprisoned by the present rulers of the British Empire, who have charge of Indian affairs, he has not despaired of the British Empire itself. According to his own opinion, it is these rulers themselves who have been untrue *to the underlying principle of that Empire.*

Another is his habitual tolerance of opinions not always shared by him: He stuck to his guns with a strange consistency not easily understood by his friends or colleagues but he never questioned the right of others to hold their own. Through *all the vicissitudes of an extraordinary* public career, many who were with him had to part company with him owing to clash of convictions. Some of his old colleagues have joined opposing camps. But nothing could shake the cordiality of his relations with them. For my own part I have never concealed my lack of faith in certain aspects of his teaching or his public policy. But that could in no way affect his undeviating affection for an old friend. Even during his short visits to Madras and in the midst of crowded engagements he would make time to visit his "old home" as he used to describe my house. *Gandhiji would think the less* of any one who would compromise his opinions merely out of regard for him. Thus time and again I have taken the liberty to remonstrate with him against certain courses in public affairs in respect *of which I could not see eye to eye* with him. When in May 1940 I ventured to criticise his war views and implored him to revise his attitude to Congress participation in war he took it in the friendliest spirit and wrote back to say, more in sorrow than in anger:

'What more can India as a subject country do than it is made to do? . . . The Congress has nothing but moral help, to give They have disabled India from doing more. India as a subject country cannot save Britain. India as a free country may.

Some Poets on the Future of Humanity*

By Dr J H COUSINS

AMONG the speculations towards the post war future which the war has forced on leaders of thought, a poetical approach to a solution of the problems of human survival of the inhumanity into which the race has fallen is not conspicuous We shall be esteemed as sensible persons if we adopt what is known as a realistic attitude to passing events, that is, if we visualise the survivors of the present epidemic of pugnacious realism as producing, transporting consuming and breeding bipeds, to whom sustenance, covering and shelter are the essentials and if we shape our attitude and actions to this conception But we shall risk the suggestion that we should take ourselves to the nearest mental hospital for an enquiry into our sanity if we preach and practise the advice of the Chinese sage that, if we have two loaves, we should sell one and buy a rose, which is but a poetical way of saying that the hunger for beauty is at least as important as the hunger for bread It would, some hold, be more worthy of humanity to die beautifully than to live uglily, but the consideration of this attitude or its reverse is outside the scope of this short study whose purpose is the simple one of briefly indicating the eligibility of the poetical approach to post war problems for consideration, with some expressions of certain poets in the English language that have a bearing on the future of humanity

The realistic approach to the problems of life is claimed to be scientific, therefore serious the poetical approach is dismissed as fantastic Yet it was a scientist Sir James Jeans, who some years ago in his famous book "The Mysterious Universe" declared that science no longer looked on the process of the universe as that of a machine obeying mechanical laws, but as that of a piece of music or a poem responding to the creative laws through which an artist works That is to say, the universe is a work of art in process of unfoldment, not complete and therefore static, but a composition developing in response to the fantasy, the imagination, that is the living power behind and within the details and the totals of life The scientific approach towards the future is therefore at one with the artistic approach The universe is a poem, sometimes industriously epical, sometimes startlingly dramatic, occasionally lyrical, seldom predictable as to its development, still in the making A poem may belong to any of these categories, with the universe behind it As a work of art it will be complete, but its creator will have carried the creative activity, which is the justification for being alive to other works To the reader, however, each reading of a complete poem is an act of re creation, a repetition and reflection of the creative activity which the scientist now sees to be the universal law of life A poem can be either a direct or indirect way whereby one or more of the laws of life may be consciously or inferentially passed by the poet to the reader to become an influence for lifting the thoughts and feelings of the readers or hearers towards their highest vision of life and highest expression of their vision An example of this is the poem that Charles Kingsley wrote at the request of a little girl

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My fairest child, I have no song to give you.
No lark could pipe to skies so dull and grey.
Yet ere we part one lesson I can leave you
For every day.

I'll teach you how to sing a clearer carol
Than lark who hails the dawn o'er breezy down,
To earn yourself a purer poet's laurel
Than Shakespeare's crown.

Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever
Do noble things, not dream them all day long
And so make life, death and the vast forever
One grand sweet song

A simple piece of verse for a child who responded to the rhythm and music and figurativeness of poetry With these she may have been content. But in her mature years she may have realised that the apparently unsophisticated third stanza set out, not only for her but for everyone everywhere always, the charaeter of the truly human life, life whose pervading quality is goodness, life that is fulfilled in noble action, life that in all its phases, because it is foundationed on goodness and nobility, rises to the level of pure poetry in the grandeur of its structure and the sweetness of its feeling. If, for the qualities of poetry, which are also the qualities of the true life, as put into verse by Kingsley and summarised in prose above, we substitute their opposites (evil quality and ignoble action resulting in organised baseness and hateful feeling) we shall find a keen diagnosis of the diseased conditions that led up to the present appalling state of the world

Kingsley's prescription for the cure of human ill (goodness fulfilled in noble action which raises life to grandeur and infuses it with sweetness), a prescription so apposite to future needs, is concerned with the quality and conduct of the individual. It is assuredly helpful; but it is not profound or lofty in its expression, though it is both in its implications. It does not go back to the causes of human quality and the springs of human action. But you cannot press the laws of the universe into twelve lines. Something must be left over for other poets to say. Occasionally they do so in the Shelleyan manner, and send the imagination of the reader questing for the Great Secret either through the dark details of the abyss or the splendours of the firmament. But the reverend poet was not free enough in mind to do this service to the awakened adult, still less to the "sweet maid." He set out the good way of life for the individual, but he did not indicate its relationship with the general life in the process of its fulfilment and the variations set up by differences of mental and emotional endowment and historical groupings Goodness and noble deeds, able as they are to turn the hideous realistic prose of life into idealistic poetry, are subject to the limitations of temperament and the fluctuations of desire and will. The future of humanity cannot be left to the whims of personality Some kind of collective action, of organisation, is necessary to prevent not only the State from acting detrimentally on the developing individual, as it did in the long "dark ages" of Europe, but to prevent the individual, in the extreme exercise of democratic ambition, from acting detrimentally on the other individuals that constitute the State on which the individual depends for his and her existence.

This feeling was behind Tennyson's anticipation of both commerce and war in the air long before the novel of H G Wells that haunted the youthful imaginations of

some of us with its dread possibilities It was also behind the poet's anticipation of a League of Nations before President Wilson was born The famous passage from "Locksley Hall" (generally limited to two lines and so denied its full meaning) is as follows

> Men my brothers men the workers ever reaping something new
>
> That which they have done but earnest of the things which they shall do
>
> For I dipt into the future far as human eye could see,
>
> Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be,
>
> Saw the heavens filled with commerce argosies of magic sails
>
> Pilots of the purple twilight dropping down with costly bales
>
> Heard the heavens filled with shouting and there rained a ghastly dew
>
> From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue,
>
> Far along the world wide whisper of the south wind rushing warm,
>
> With the standards of the peoples plunging through the thunder storm
>
> Till the war drum throbbed no longer and the battle-flags were furled
>
> In the Parliament of Man the Federation of the world
>
> There the commonsense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,
>
> And the kindly earth shall slumber lapt in universal law

The lines do not indicate the process by which humanity, in the imagination of the poet, reached world federation But they give us a glimpse of a poet's glimpse of the collective necessity in life, as Kingsley's lyric expressed the individual necessity Neither of itself gives the formula of the desired future of humanity Complete individualism would lead to anarchy, complete regimentation would lead to disruption from the expansive pressure of the human spirit The Parliament of Man might find its deliberations broken into by a new Hitler The "fretful realm might not regard the "commonsense of most" at all as awe inspiring The oscillation between the north pole of democracy and the south pole of dictatorship will go on so long as the compass needle of life floats horizontally It will slow down towards stability when man, who biologically has attained the perpendicular, assumes the same perpendicularity in thought and feeling, when he rises above the ground-level of Charters and Freedoms, that may give him the sensation of much movement but will take him nowhere and views his problems from a height where he can see the landscape in its true perspective, the wood giving strength and comradeship and shape and mystery to the tree, the tree giving its character and attainment to the wood

Certain poets in English have indicated this perpendicular view of life I cannot quote them all or *in extenso* A few references will have to satisfy us We recall Robert Burns vision of fundamental humanity under its social differences

> The rank is but the guinea stamp,
> The man s the gowd for a that

Shelley from a point higher up the perpendicular than Burns, saw the spiritual nature of humanity as its element of unity, its governing power the source of the future organisation in which all will be collaborators in service and enjoyment In the great chant at the end of 'Prometheus Unbound' he sang of

> Man one immortal soul of many a soul,
> Whose nature is its own divine control
> Where all things flow to all as rivers to the sea

Recently a poetess in America, at the age of nine, described 'The Happy Land' in which the animals of a child s imagination were endowed with faculties in addition to those they originally possessed, beautiful things, like flowers, endowed with learning, blind things like underground moles with eyes the colour of the moon sky All the inhabitants of that land were happy just because they took one another for granted, and did not expect another to be different from its birth right

Everyone is happy,
Even mastodons.
Just because a planet,
Dropped comparisons.

From the last line we jump to the obviously intended parallel with humanity, and see a perpendicular hint towards the future of humanity.

To some poets the perpendicular is not ascended or descended by humanity alone Francis Thompson saw

. . . the traffic of Jacob's Ladder
Pitched between heaven and Charing Cross,

the traffickers beings the Angelic hosts. George Meredith had the same vision, and a short poem of his is suggestive towards the future. The Angels look critically on *men;* notice them shifty as the sea in storm in one place, and dull as a swamp in another, and prefer them when laid out tidily in graves. The Angels look appreciatively on *man*, the totality ("*Man*, Oh! not *men*" as Shelley would say); observe their passage through uncertainties, their adventurousness, and are ready to be work-mates on equal terms. And together, by Men and Angels, the poet says, the sea will be quelled, the swamp drained, and through the defilement of struggle a soul-illuminating light will show itself; a consolation to the sensitive in the midst of the darkness of our time, and an enunciation to the future of the need of idealism and realism as collaborators, not as opponents. The poem is entitled "Men and Man."

Men the Angels eyed:
And here they were wild waves,
And there as marsh deserved,
Men the Angels eyed,
And liked the picture best
When they were greenly dressed
In brotherhood of graves

Man the Angels marked:
He led a host through murk,
On fearful seas embarked,
Man the Angels marked,
To think without a nay,
That he was good as they,
And help him at his work.

Man and Angels, ye
A sluggish fen shall drain,
Shall quell a warring sea,
Man and Angels, ye,
Whom stain of strife befouls,
A light to kindle souls
Bear radiant in the stain.

The highest point on the perpendicular view of life in poetry in English has been attained by AE. who sees humanity, not as an evolving animal or as a collaborator with Angels, but as a fragmentation and reflection of the Divine Being of the Universe struggling back towards the individual and collective realisation and fulfilment of its inherent divinity. It is not possible here to quote and amplify this idealistic view of human nature and its implications regarding the future of humanity. But something of its possible power as a regenerating agent in human thought and action will be found in the following two stanzas from "The Twilight of Earth" with their dark prophecy many years ago of what is taking place today and their enunciation of the poet's conviction that human necessity in the future will not be met by merely human expedients in Charters and Freedoms, but by the calling out of the divinity disguised in humanity, in the exercise of which the general life of humanity will become a replica of the Poem of the Universe as Jeans heard it AE's two stanzas are these:

. . . We dwindle down beneath the skies,
And from ourselves we pass away:
The Paradise of memories
Grows ever fainter day by day
The shepherd stars have shrunk within,
The world's great night will soon begin.

Will now one, ere it be too late,
Ere fades the last memorial gleam,
Recall for us our earlier state?
For nothing but so vast a dream
That it would scale the steeps of air
Could rouse us from so vast despair.

The quotation ends on a word of pessimism: in fact it expresses the optimistic view of life based on the conception of humanity as a being of celestial origin and destiny.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES IN CEYLON

By A 'CEYLONESE

TRULY, necessity is the mother of invention Two years ago the position regarding foodstuffs and clothing in Ceylon was grave Prices of articles rocketed to enormous figures The price of rice rose from 2 annas a seer to one rupee Kerosene oil sold at 3 annas per bottle was unobtainable even at 10 annas Grey cloth which even the poorest villager could buy at one and a half annas a yard rose to one rupee and four annas! traders were having their own way Government intervened by imposing maximum rates for various essential articles Immediately an article was thus controlled , it disappeared into the black market The people could not endure such hardship nny longer It looked as if Government would have to take over the business of the shop keepers as indeed it had to do in some towns Then when everything seemed lost—the solution was found The first co operative store was opened in Colombo It was a immense success The 'co-ops , as they are now familiarly called became part and parcel of war time life

The growth of the co ops has been phenomenal Two years ago there were none To day there are 5 000 (five thousand) scattered throughout the Island—in the biggest town and remotest village The movement spread like wild fire People had no longer to pay exorbitant rates for the most essential articles of food and cloth ng Every man was convinced of the value of the co ops Hence their wide popularity To day nearly four million out of the six million are members of co operative stores

The three and a half lakhs of people within the Colombo Municipality are served by 103 co operative stores This is the only instance perhaps in the world, where the entire population of a city is served by co-operative stores No rationed articles can be bought anywhere else as in all co operative work the 5 000 stores are managed by the members themselves Once a year the election of office bearers take place, or more frequently if the members are not satisfied with the managing committee and wish to elect a new committee from among themselves Each co operative store has about 10 committee members Thus there are 50 000 members in the committees who are doing honorary work This itself is an achievement in a small Island like Ceylon The Government Co operative Department gives all the help it can and is assiduously working to establish these co ops on a sound basis so that they may become permanent institut ons

The co-operative stores have practically taken over the function of the pre war private trader They have had to do so since the private trader let down his costomers The co ops deal in all articles of food, drink and clothing Some of them have even undertaken the distribution of fresh milk, eggs and fish This illustrates the enthusiasm on the part of the co ops During the first year of working the co-ops in Ceylon sold over forty five million rupees worth of goods to their customers

Just now the co ops find it ex tremely d fficult to obtain goods as what little arrives in the Island has to be distributed among the military the private trader and the co ops But the deci sion to establish a co operative stores wholesale importers society is a hopeful sign Although co ops have been purely a war time necessity, their value has been proved and the conservative people convinced of their service If the co ops survive the period after the war when goods will once again be freely available they will have marked a momentous occasion in the history of the Island towards self sufficiency and self help

THE HINDU LAW CODE

By Mr. S. Ramaswami Aiyar, B.A., B.L.

THE prospect of a Hindu Law Code applicable to the 400 millions of this vast sub-continent has been announced recently in the newspapers and a summary of its provisions has been published by some of them It is undoubtedly a grand prospect and the achievement of this great legislative feat would be among the lasting benefits of British rule in India. The project has been taken up by the Government of India in right earnest and a Committee presided by Sir B N Rao, I C S, now Dewan of Kashmir, has been labouring at it. The reputation of the members of the Committee and especially its Chairman is a guarantee that the best efforts would be made not merely to produce a Code but a good one But it must be remembered that the difficulties are stupendous though, it is hoped, not insuperable The project is nothing less than to evolve a uniform Code of Hindu Law out of the different and often conflicting schools of law now prevalent in different areas and among different communities. This, by itself, is a very difficult task. An even more difficult task is to select the more progressive elements in the various schools of law and blend them into a Code which would at once be simple, progressive and uniform These tasks would entail a great deal of revolutionary change in existing laws and customs giving rise to strong and bitter opposition While the school of thought which would oppose any legislation in regard to the laws and customs found in our sacred books may not command any general support, the drastic changes of fundamental concepts, made in several parts of the draft Code, *e g*, in the law of coparcenary and survivorship in a Hindu joint family are not going to be an easy matter. Besides these difficulties, there are others in the way of promulgating a uniform Code for the whole country on account of the separation of Federal and Provincial fields of legislation If the difficulties are overcome and a Code is enacted which commands the acceptance of the bulk of our people, the achievement would be without parallel in history. The great desire and hope entertained by many for a long time that a Code would be enacted and thereby the uncertainty and wasteful litigation which are a reproach to the present state of affairs would be avoided would have been realised.

The draft Code deals with the following subjects:—Intestate and Testamentary Succession and matters arising therefrom, including maintenance; Marriage and Divorce; Minority and Guardianship; and Adoption These are all the topics on which the Centre, *ie*, the Federal Legislature can legislate at present. The difficulty of legislation is illustrated by the fact that devolution of agricultural land is a Provincial subject under the Government of India Act, 1935, and a law made by the Federal Legislature on that matter would be incompetent and invalid Therefore, the provisions in the Code regarding devolution and succession can only apply to non-agricultural lands, houses and other property and for the purpose of achieving uniformity, the Provincial Legislatures will have to extend those provisions to agricultural lands also

The draft Code consists of six parts. Part I is Preliminary and contains some general provisions and definitions It says that the draft Code applies to all Hindus and defines a Hindu as meaning a person professing the Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh or Jaina religion. A convert to the Hindu religion is a Hindu A person who joins the Brahmo, or the Arya Samaj, is a Hindu.

Part II deals with the important and difficult subject of Intestate Succession. The scheme of this Part is to divide heirs into two divisions, namely, enumerated heirs and non-enumerated heirs. The enumerated heirs are divided into six classes;

and the order of succession among them is that those in one class shall be preferred to those in the succeeding class, and within each class those included in one entry shall be preferred to those included in any succeeding entry, while those included in the same entry shall take together For instance class 1 consists of heirs in the compact series they are (1) widow, son daughter, son of a predeceased son heirs in this entry being preferred to as "simultaneous heirs", (2) daughter's son, (3) mother (4) father, (5) brother (6) brother's son According to the principle just now stated the persons mentioned in this class take precedence over those in the next and following classes Among the persons mentioned in this class those in one entry are preferred to those in a succeeding entry, for instance, if a person leaves two daughters and a daughter's son the daughters are preferred to the daughter s son and the two daughters take together The principle of distribution among the "simultaneous heirs is as follows A widow takes the same share as the son Each son takes one share Sons of a predeceased son shall take *per stirpes*, that is to say, the sons of a predeceased son shall take the share which would have been taken by him if he had been alive at the time of the death of the intestate The grandsons of a predeceased son shall take the share which their father would have taken if he had been alive at the time aforesaid Therefore heirs mentioned in the first entry, *viz*, widow, son, daughter, etc, will all take together in the manner and proportion just described and will be preferred to the daughter s son, mother, father, brothers and brother's son The next class, Class II, refers to other descendants of the intestate like the son's daughter, daughter's daughter, etc, Class III to other descendants of the father, Class IV to father's mother, father's father and his descendants, Class V to father's father's mother, father's father's father and his descendants and Class VI to mother's mother, mother s father and his descendants These six classes form the enumerated heirs In the absence of any one of these heirs the non enumerated heirs take the estate These heirs may be either agnates or cognates and certain rules of preference for determining the heir among them are stated If, of course, any agnate or cognate is among the enumerated heirs these rules do not apply to him or her For instance, we get the following results by applying the rules a father's brother's daughter is preferred to a sister s daughter s son, because, the first is an agnate while the second is a cognate, a sister s daughter's daughter is preferred to a maternal uncle's daughter, because the former has one degree of ascent from the intestate while the latter has two such degrees If there is no heir either enumerated or non enumerated the heritable property of the intestate would devolve upon the preceptor disciple and fellow student in the order stated If a person renounced the world by becoming a hermit, an ascetic or a perpetual religious student the rules stated above would apply as if he had died intestate at the time of such renunciation One important provision made in the Code to prevent excessive fragmentation of immovable property is that if a share devolves upon a woman who by marriage has passed into another family, her share can be valued and the value paid to her in money by taking proceedings in Court under the Partition Act, 1893 A very important and new feature of the Code is that women take their property absolutely and not as a limited estate under the present law. Therefore they would have absolute power of alienation of their property and the large and prolific litigation arising from disputes between reversioners and alienees from widows and daughters and other limited owners would not apparently vex the Courts in future If, however, a person desires to limit the powers of alienation and give only a life estate to any of his heirs, male or female, he will have to make

a will; and perhaps wills would become more frequent than now. Part II then proceeds to define the power of women over their Stridhana property and the order and the mode of succession thereto A few provisions of this part remain to be mentioned; *viz*, while a convert is not disqualified from inheriting from a Hindu relative, the children of the convert or their children are disqualified unless they have become Hindus, there is no disqualification on the ground of disease, defect or deformity; if there is no heir under the above rules, the property goes to the Crown.

Parts III and III-A deal with Testamentary Succession, devolution of joint family property and maintenance The new Code makes a drastic and revolutionary change in the joint family law by declaring that (i) joint family property shall devolve not by survivorship but by testamentary or intestate succession, (ii) a son, grandson or great grandson has no right by birth in such property. In these two respects the law in Bengal known as the Dayabhaga Law is introduced into other provinces The result would be that succession will open according to the rules above stated and property will not pass by survivorship to persons who happen to be members or coparceners of the joint family A father would have absolute rights over his property even though it is ancestral property; his son cannot question his dealings with it It is quite obvious that in Madras and other provinces where different rules prevail there will be a serious challenge and opposition to the new provisions. Among the persons entitled to maintenance are the father, the mother, the widow, a minor son or grandson or great grandson, unmarried daughter, a widowed daughter, a widow, of the son, or the grandson or great grandson, a minor illegitimate son, an unmarried illegitimate daughter

Part IV deals with the important topics of marriage and divorce. The provisions regarding marriage fall under two heads, (i) a sacramental marriage and (ii) a civil marriage. In either case it is a requisite of a valid marriage that neither party must have a spouse living at the time of the marriage This is another revolutionary change introduced in the marriage law and custom of India. The compulsory enforcement of monogamy by statute is likely to encounter strong opposition. While the principle of monogamy is not open to question and may well be enforced among the higher classes of the community, a great deal of investigation and consideration of facts would seem to be necessary before applying it and enforcing the penalties of bigamy on the large bulk of our poor people whose economic and social conditions may appear to be bound up with their marriage customs. For instance, if an agricultural wage-earner is accustomed in particular areas or in particular communities to take another wife to share in his work and add to the earnings of the family the enforcement of monogamy on his class on theoretical grounds may be open to the criticism of being harsh and unrelated to facts. The extent to which such or similar customs are prevalent and the areas and communities concerned may require close scrutiny and study before any such law is passed. Other requisites of a valid sacramental marriage are the parties must belong to the same caste but not to the same gotra; the parties must not be within certain prohibited degree of relationship; the parties must not be "sapindas" of each other and if the bride has not completed her sixteenth year, the guardian must consent to the marriage. But it is also enacted that a marriage, if completed, will not be invalid on the ground that the parties did not belong to the same caste or belonged to the same gotra or unless there was force or fraud the consent of the bride's guardian was not obtained. Here again the draft Code introduces a revolutionary change, *viz*, validation of an inter-caste marriage which would be highly obnoxious to certain sections of the community. One cannot help expressing the hope that the authors of the Code and the legislatures

would avoid highly contentious or controversial departures from existing law and custom under the guise of codifying the law, especially when any such departure is not demanded in the interests of *uniformity or simplicity of legislation*. The passage of the Code in the legislatures and its popularity in the country would be endangered if it attempts to enforce reformist ideas on an unwilling people. If such ideas are to be enforced by legislation, the preferable course is to have resort to *ad hoc* legislation (*e.g.*, the Sarda Act) which would focus attention on it and its merits and demerits independently. The public have not yet been instructed on the merits of the new provisions of the code and the reasons demanding them. A statement of these reasons by the committee would be helpful to instruct and guide public opinion. The provisions in Part IV regarding a civil marriage are in the main those already in force under the Special Marriage Act. The Code gives a person liberty to solemnise a sacramental marriage and also have it registered as a civil marriage. An interesting provision for checking the dowry evil is that the property or money given to a person for consenting to a marriage should be held by him or her in trust for the wife and transferred to her on her attaining majority. Far and away the most important and far reaching provisions of this Part are those relating to nullity and dissolution of marriages. Either party may present a petition to the District Court or High Court to declare his or her marriage null and void. The grounds are (i) impotency, (ii) prohibited degrees of relationship, (iii) sapindaship (iv) lunacy or idiocy, (v) bigamous marriage. Either party can also apply for divorce. The grounds are (i) incurable unsoundness of mind, (ii) virulent and incurable leprosy, (iii) desertion, (iv) conversion, (v) venereal disease, (vi) the other party having or being a concubine or leading the life of a prostitute. These provisions are, of course, the necessary corollary of a monogamous marriage. It remains to be seen how our people react to these proposals.

Part V deals with minority and guardianship and does not contain anything departing from the present law. The same remark applies to Part VI dealing with Adoption though there are some very important provisions which require close scrutiny.

The full co-operation of all thinking people in a spirit of helpfulness is necessary to ensure success for this great and difficult legislative enterprise.

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Racism & the Colour Problem—Far & Near

By Mr. G. A. CHANDAVARKAR, M.A.

DURING the last two or three centuries, with the enormous expansion of the whiteman's political and economic domination nearly all the world over, there has been a corresponding rousing of the race consciousnes among the "ruled coloured people", with the result that the impact has either led to clashes of varying intensities or in some cases to a happy intermingling of the races for their mutual benefit. Of late, however, both the race problem and the colour problem have become so acute that they have become world-issues, on the equitable solution of which depends largely the future peace of the world. On the one hand, the irreconcilable protagonist of the white man proclaims that "The black man can never understand the whiteman, nor the white the black, as long as black is black and white is white." On the other hand, the subjugated coloured man feels that mere ethnological differences can by no means be a bar to his attainment of political equality or economic freedom. He has no faith either in the "ruling race theory" or in the view that "the whiteman's mission is to farm the world." "It is also noteworthy that queer notions of racism have led to strange and unhappy results in world's history. At times, peoples belonging to the same race with varying political aspirations have come into terrible conflicts, *e.g.*, the Jews and the Arabs among the Semetic races, the Germans and the British among the Teutons and the Chinese and the Japanese among the Mongoloids Viewing racism from another standpoint, we find that certain races, imbued with the notions of capitalistic imperialism or of race superiority, look down upon the coloured people with supreme callousness, so much so that they are considered not only unfit for "self-determination" but also not quite worthy of even disinterested partnership, because of the existence of peculiar communal differences among them. Such an attitude has naturally led to disquieting situations. No amount of pious wishes expressed in solemn conclaves or clauses embodied in charters can stem the rising tide of race consciousness, nor can huge armaments and the terrible weapons of destruction at the command of the powers achieve their purpose. Psychological causes underlying this strange malady deserve to be diagnosed and remedies applied. Else, the edifice of future peace of the world will have been built upon sand.

PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS

When once power over the weak is attained, will to retain it persists. Gradually self-asssertiveness even of the weaker makes him resist the wish of the stronger not to part with power. Inferiority complex developed in the subjugated owing to fear or terror eventually becomes a passing phase. Desperation ultimately takes its place. Even the notions of a lower standard of living of the coloured races have no rational basis, because the criterion differs. Can it be argued that a life of "Plain living and High thinking" is inferior to a life of feverish existence, hurryburry, bustle, restlessness and the multiplication of luxuries of modern times? Clearly then, racism is a great impediment in the path of pan-humanism. Hence it is that Dr. Boas says "Racism as a basis of social solidarity

is against the cultural interest of mankind' Mutual goodwill and the shedding of mistrust and distrust backed by feelings of give and take are perhaps the only antidotes to the malady eating into the vitals of the powers that be, be they in Central Europe or Australia or South Africa

THE BRITISH EMPIRE AND INDIA

In the British Dominions where out of seven people, six are coloured the problem is of vital importance In different regions it has assumed different forms In Australia it has arisen out of economic causes, such as wage rivalry In South Africa it is alleged to be the outcome of inequalities in the standard of living In India it is *the conception of a particular type of political freedom* that has made it so complex and even embarrassing at times Researches of linguists and orientalists have established the fact that the Britisher and the Indo Aryan originally belong to the same race, *viz*, the Caucasian Only long residence in hot climates has given rise to differences in the externals, just as it is possible that the Anglo Saxon race in Australia centuries after may undergo such marked ethnological changes as to disbelieve the oneness of their original stock Culturally, Indians are not backward What then is the impediment in the path?

The trend of historical events in ancient India has all along been towards a happy intermingling of races that settled in India from time to time There have been definite legacies of such a mingling Linguistically the rise of a common language like Prakrit or Hindee, architecturally, the evolution of the Indo Sarasenic style, and theologically, the development of the Bhakti cult are all illustrations of this unique tendency With the advent of the Britisher who established peace and order and introduced the study of the Western sciences in the Universities of India, a similar tendency was visible The evolution of India as one Nation was its best fruit The foundation of the Indian National Congress as the result of the combined efforts of some far seeing Indians among whom were Parsees, Hindus, Mussalmans and even some Englishmen was a standing monument to the genius of the advancing nation Just as each ruling nation left a permanent legacy, the Britisher too can leave no better legacy than that of granting political freedom suited to the genius of the people The soul of the people cries for it The hand that wields the power must first be gracefully stretched forth and the receiver is bound to respond to it sympathetically and gratefully too All friendships and co operations are preceded by mutual respect and confidence A new chapter in the unique history of Indo-British relations has to be opened Time spirit demands the existence of the builders of bridges of goodwill and harmony, more than the builders of the walls of prejudice and separation The anvil of nationhood founded by the genius of the Dravidians and the Aryans broadened by the gospel of Buddha, hammered by the zeal of the brotherhood of Islam and polished by the sweetness of the Zorastrians needs to be rivetted by the far seeing statesmanship of the Britisher For such a purpose, no time is more precious than the present one

LAND OF THE NOBLE FREE

By PEARL S. BUCK

[The author of "Good Earth" and winner of the Nobel Prize in literature in 1938 is one of the leading contemporary American writers and a vigorous champion of human rights and liberties. Mrs. Buck has of late championed the cause of freedom in India as in China. In this, her introduction to the book "American Counterpoint" by Alexander Alland (published by the John Day Company), Mrs. Buck describes America as the land of the noble free. Peoples from all lands, she says, have built a nation in America out of their common love of freedom.—ED. *I. R.*]

AMERICA is an idea. Call the idea a dream if you like, but it is more than a dream, because it has already begun to work enough to prove that it is practicable.

What is this idea which is America? It can be put into very simple words—it is the idea that persons of many kinds can live together on a piece of the earth's surface, under a piece of the same sky, and if they believe in freedom they can become a united people. America is all those persons who have come out from various races and nations elsewhere in the world because they want to live in a land where they are free to be themselves The idea that is America is the idea of freedom for human beings.

Not all the persons who came to America knew that they believed in freedom, but they did, whether they realized it or not. Some of them could not put it into words. They thought they were coming here to get a better living, but this in itself was an expression of a belief in freedom—in being free, that is, to better themselves Freedom is not freedom unless it lets men be free to better themselves. Some came here to find freedom of worship, some freedom of speech

Never before did the lovers of freedom, high and low, ignorant and educated, dark and light, come together, not knowing each other, but all drawn by the same dream, however expressed, to make a nation Had the idea been planned it would have been called fantastic. Men would have thought of a thousand reasons against it. They would have declared it unworkable. The difficulties would have been obvious, the good doubtful. But the idea of being free is more than an idea. It is an instinct in man's being. It stirs in him as his blood stirs and he does not know why. It is the instinct of life The child in the womb has it when it becomes too large for its walls and knows by nature's knowing that it must be free if it is not to die, and it struggles toward birth. The youth knows that he must be free of his parents and his home and he leaves those whom he has loved best. Man and woman alike, we cannot continue to love those who will not let us be free and we leave the dearest love if we cannot have freedom for growth. And old people sick of the bondage of their bodies are ready to die at last, however they fear death, because death, too, can be freedom.

When, therefore, these men and women came to America they came obeying an instinct that was as strong as the instinct to look toward light. Having seen the light, having caught the idea, they became part of it, and at whatever cost, they left all and followed after it They sailed the seas and set their feet upon the shores of a new country, sacred not because it was new, not because it was better than the one they had

left, but because that soil was the physical body of the idea in which they believed, the tangible place for the instinct to satisfy itself Here, they believed, they could grow

In America people have no more in common with each other than have the peoples of Europe They have no long common history as have the peoples of China or India They have no common race as Chinese have They have nothing in common at all except the idea which is America—the belief that they want and must have freedom as the atmosphere in which to live In everything else they disagree

It is only in this common love of freedom that they have any basis for peace There is no other hope for peace among them, no other reason why Americans should not make of their country a group of small warring nations It would be very easy to do it by prejudice, by discrimination, by withdrawal, by segregation

Therefore how valuable is this one thing they have in common—a belief in freedom! How jealously they ought to preserve it!

Freedom is an atmosphere like pure air It is an environment, the only environment in which the human spirit can grow When freedom is gone, man's spirit shrinks and dwindles and dies, and he becomes an animal Nothing is left of him but an eating, evacuating, reproducing animal. The creative imagination, the bold brain, the daring which lifts man out of himself and beyond himself, which speeds invention and discovery and art and achievement—all are gone when freedom is not the atmosphere in which man lives

America was made for freedom's sake, that here all men might live together in peace and mutual allowance for each other's being America is not a melting pot It never was a melting pot nor will it ever be It has been futile to try to weld Americans into a people of one mold No, America is a country where men and women, believing in freedom, live together in the common determination to let differences exist, to cherish differences and benefit from them, because only where differences can exist without persecution can there be real freedom —*USA*

THE CRUMBLING EDIFICE OF NAZISM

By Mr WALTER MILLIS

IN the months which have elapsed since the mysterious crisis between Hitler and his generals, July 20, all available evidence has tended only to confirm the impression that the disintegration of Hitler's Germany is already underway The foundations of that once colossal edifice of power, violence and repression are slipping at last; the processes of defeat are now visibly at work

Military fronts are crumbling The Russians have entrapped and neutralised two whole German field armies, in Latvia and Estonia, Russian artillery is bombarding the "sacred" soil of East Prussia itself

In France, where the Germans themselves elected to wage their decisive battle, where large concentrations of Gestapo and SS troop held the line, the dam has been brokens

The strategy of desperation, which compelled the Germans to stake everything on a hope of at first repelling, later on at least containing, the British American landings, has ended in costly failure.

Diplomatic fronts are crumbling, thus accurately recording, as always, the significance of military events. Turkey has broken off diplomatic relations with the collapsing Nazi Empire and Berlin, whose terrors once arrogantly brought the whole continent to heel, has been unable to make reply With the Turkish action falls one last buttress of German power in south-eastern Europe; Germany no longer has troops or hangmen to spare to hold down freedom's armies in Yugoslavia and Greece, the whole edifice of German dominance in the Balkans (a dominance economically vital to the German war machine) is tottering. To the north, Finland is going simultaneously. The abrupt change of government in Helsinki certainly signifies that with the huge disasters in White Russia Germany has lost the power to defend her Finnish satellite.

The official German announcement, August 4, that the army had "requested" Hitler to carry out a drastic shake-up of its own ranks completes a picture of impending break-up too impressive to be denied.

What course the disintegration will take or even the rate at which it will progress, we do not know. In September and October, 1918, it began to be evident the end was approaching but almost no one in the Allied countries, and very few probably in Germany itself, could have predicted the precise course which events were to take, to say nothing of predicting the suddenness with which the end actually came. The German generals of that time, whose initial panic after the "Black Day" early in August set in motion the forces which resulted in the final debacle, certainly did not realise all they were doing or understand, until it was too late, how irreversible were the processes of defeat which they themselves unloosed. Nazi leaders who seemed to be in quite as desperate panic on July 20 may be equally misled in imagining they have now brought under control the forces of disruption and defeat which they themselves exposed to the world—and to Germany.

It is not to say whether events at this time are likely to repeat exactly the 1918 pattern. Then the German command, when it saw it had irretrievably lost the war, still hoped by forcing the civil power to surrender it could save the army, the military tradition, prestige and power of the officer and owning classes from the obloquy of defeat, from impending social revolution.

In the attack on the generals the Nazis are staging a kind of social revolution of their own. But palace coups d'etat and imitation revolutions cannot stay the process of defeat any more than generals' calculations could in 1918 The heart is going out of the structure; hope is dying, divisions and army corps whose bones whiten the ground from Narvik to the Caucasus cannot be brought to life; it takes more than propaganda to make a skeleton stand up and fight.

All Hitler and his gangsters *have done* is to take German militarism down with German Nazism into one abyss; in that they have done an important part of the Allies' work for them And they have, perhaps unwittingly, rendered their one real service to the German people if they have proved to the latter that military rule, military tradition, a great German army and all it implies, is and can be a source only of catastrophic disaster to the society which nourished it.

THE CONTROL OF CAPITAL ISSUES

By Prof Prem Chand Malhotra, M A

THE war created a plethora of currency It also created opportunities for industries Trade and commerce got accelerated in the war born circumstances It was natural that under these conditions there should have been a spurt of new company promotions

On May 17, 1943, the Government pro mulgated the Control of Capital Issues Rules The object of this measure was to prevent the growth of mushroom companies which stood little chance of survival in the post war period and other undesirable practices, such as the reconsti tution or recapitalisation of concerns on the basis of their existing abnormal profits to the detriment of an undiscriminating investing public The Government made it clear that there was no intention of handi capping or retarding sound and legitimate industrial development or expansion calcu-lated to promote the war effort of the country or to increase production to meet the civil requirements of the country at the present time or in the near future Before a year has run out, it has been considered necessary to revise conditions of the Con-trol of Capital Issues It is proposed to examine in this article the effects of the old and the revised control of capital rules on industrial promotion in India.

An analysis of the working of the Con trol of Capital Issues makes interesting study Till the end of 1943, 687 applica-tions classified as "industrial' involving a capital of Rs 24 99 crores were received Consent was given in 588 cases involving a capital of Rs 16 69 crores and then were 99 refusals amounting to Rs 6 98 crores of capital Of the proposals for which permission was granted, 226, with a capital of Rs 744 lakhs were initial issues by new companies, while 362, with a capital of Rs 925 lakhs, were further issues for old companies 81 proposals relating to the cotton textile industy, 66 proposals of iron, steel and engineering industries and 77 proposals connected with the manufacture of chemicals, drugs and medicines were accepted 364 applications relating to the following types of industries also received sanction printing and statio-nery, soaps and vegetable oils, leather goods public utilities, timber, tobacco and cigarettes, non ferrous metals, paper and straw board, mining and quarrying, sugar and gur, food preservation, transport, pottery and glass, film production and distri bution and others Permission was also given to a number of banking and insu-rance companies to start or extend their business

The issue of capital in the case of several "cotton textile industry' and "chemicals ' was refused The guiding principle in determining this action of the Government was the desirability of dis-couraging enterprises which threatened to increase the pressure on materials and services in short supply, including coal and transport The refusal of the Government to permit the starting of the manufacture of automobiles in India (this ban has now been lifted) was similarly explained by the Government due to competition which such a concern would create for the tech nical labour of which there was a growing scarcity

As a measure of regulation of industrial enterprise during the war and as a contrivance for influencing post-war industrial planning, for post-war industrial planning to begin with must have its roots in industrial promotions of the war, the Control of Capital Issues *has not an insignificant* role to play. Fears have been expressed that the manipulation of the Control of Capital Issues can be used by the Government to push their pet schemes of industrialization in which transport, minor agricultural industries find a preference to the neglect of heavy and basic industries. These fears have not been found to be groundless considering the cases of refusal of Capital Issues. But the extent to which the Control of Capital Issues has prevented indiscriminate growth of new company floatations and overcapitalization in industries, to that extent the measure must be credited with having forestalled an inevitable collapse of premature and ill-judged company promotions Because although the Government of India does not take any responsibility for the financial soundness of *any schemes sanctioned, it satisfies itself* before granting permission that the promoters had carried their plans to the extent of a definite scheme, revealing the nature of the plant required , and showing that negotiations with suppliers of machinery had been carried up to the stage of definiteness.

The Government has now (end of April, 1944) relaxed rules relating to the sanction of Capital Issues to admit of even schemes in an indefinite form so that if corporations are already in existence with adequate amounts of capital at their disposal ready for use at short notice, the future industrial development of India would be greatly helped, when the pressure of war-time conditions is removed. But three conditions are attached to the sanction to be given for the formation of new companies *in an uncrystallized form.* These are :—

(i) The bulk of the capital raised must be invested in Defence Loans until such time as it can be made use of.

(ii) Capital raised and invested in Government securities will not be released for use until the Government is satisfied that the time has come to make corresponding payments for purposes which are *consistent with the enforcement of measures* of control or restriction that may be in operation at the time when such release is applied for.

(iii) A prescribed proportion of the new Capital Issue should be subscribed and allotted to the promoters and their friends.

The first condition relating to the investment of sanctioned capital issue in Defence Bonds would *certainly be an anti-*inflationary measure as it would help to withdraw surplus funds from the market while at the same time making funds available to the company after the war when its scheme is ready to be put into working force. Care should, however, be taken that the company is permitted to have liquid funds to enable it to carry out preliminary processes necessary in formation of new companies.

The second condition relating to the release of funds invested in Defence Bonds when required is hard. Companies formed

now will have to abide by whatever conditions the Government chooses to impose at the time when capital is released The Government may have a plan of import priorities which delays the execution of the scheme of a company indefinitely or the Government may have its own regional planning scheme under which the location of an industry in the contemplated area may have to be prohibited In the absence of a clearly defined post war industrialization policy by the Government, one wonders why should company promoters lock the capital of the public and their own in nebulous industrial promotions without having any tangible advantage And why should the investing public stake its money on a dark horse about which it is also not certain whether it will be permitted to enter the race at all?

The third condition is not likely to infuse much confidence in the investing public regarding the soundness of a concern The shares of those companies which are already shown to be subscribed in a good proportion by the promoters and their friends have ready sales The company promoters are thus able to unload their shares on the public even at a premium and be out of the show if they so chose If a rider were introduced to the third condition that the company promoters and their friends should retain a prescribed proportion of the share capital of the company till the concern actually starts working, this would be a better guarantee of safe investment against the machinations of unscrupulous share pushers

During this war we find fresh waves of foreign capital and enterprise rolling on and settling in India Probably these concerns are for the time being serving an essential purpose in that they are principally engaged in the production of war equipment A proper control of capital issues should apply to both internal and foreign capital In the case of foreign capital, it should at least be decided that its employment in the present field of production vests no vested interests when the post war industrial policy of the country is determined and the Government of India would be free to deal with the existing and future foreign enterprise in India with a view to preserving key industries like automobile manufacture, engineering and chemicals for exclusively Indian enterprise

The Control of Capital Issues has laudable aims It all depends how it is worked The Government should constitute a non official committee consisting of economic experts, bankers, industrialists, commercial magnates and representatives of general interests whose advice it would seek in the matter of dealing with applications for Capital Issues Such a body may as well become the harbinger of National Investment and Provincial Investment Boards which the Central and the Provincial Governments would find very useful to consult in their programme of economic development

Prospects of Estate Duty in India

By Prof. V. G. Ramakrishnan, M.A.

ALTHOUGH the possibility of the imposition of an Estate duty in India has been discussed in recent years, the question has now passed the stage of academic discussion and has assumed practical significance in view of the Government of India's proposal to introduce a Bill for the imposition of this additional taxation In introducing the budget for 1944-45 in February last, the Finance Member said "We have under consideration the possibility of an Estate duty on non-agricultural property which would be levied by the Centre but of which the proceeds would be assessed to the Provinces" In spite of war-time taxation, it is indisputable that enormous private fortunes have been made during the war aggravating the great inequality which already existed. Even on a modest programme vast sums will be needed for post-war development of the country and there is manifest justification for a system of death duties whereby these large fortunes will be laid under contribution. It is necessary that proposals for an Estate duty will not be upset in a Court of law and hence the question of the power of the Federal legislature to levy an Estate duty in respect of property other than agricultural land was referred to the Federal Court. The snag is the Hindu undivided estate or what was described in the reference to the Federal Court as "co-parcenary interest in joint property in a Hindu family governed by the Mitakshara school of law." The intricacies and complexities of personal law governing succession in India imply that the main difficulty of amending the personal laws should be removed There is also the problem of devising the machinery for the assessment and collection of duty. As Sir Muhammad Zafrullah pointed out, the vast bulk of the people of this country are governed in matters of inheritance and succession by their personel laws and have not the remotest conception of letters of administration, probate and the the like. Estate duty which rationalised a miscellaneous selection of existing succession and legacy taxes has been in force in Britain since 1894. As Mr. Setalwad pointed out in the Federal Court, the pith and substance of the proposed legislation in India is contained in questions 1 and 2 of the English Finance Act (1894). As regards the entries in the lists in the Government of India Act it is argued that the entry referring to the levy of tax upon the capital assets of individuals and companies has nothing to do with the passing of property on death but refers to the assessments of living individuals on the capital value of their assets. Apart from this legal aspect, new taxation along these lines will not be welcome, but there can be little doubt that it will ultimately help the very inelastic Provincial revenues

It is well therefore to understand first the economic philosophy underlying this new form of taxation. Although of fairly recent development, Estate and Succession duties have established themselves securely in the modern scheme of taxation. They have proved to be a stable and dependable source of revenue on the whole in some of the European countries. Moreover, they provide an opportunity for adjusting the tax rates and the burden of taxation in some degree according to the principle of ability. Much of the emphasis that has been placed on ability as a rule or criterion of taxation has been without consideration of the effects of taxation so devised on the flow of investment funds While the entire capital fund is not provided by those with large incomes, it is provided by the whole group of servers and it is easy to neglect the significance of the services of this group when following too keenly the scent of ability taxation. Nothing is clearer than that the capital fund losses caused by severe taxation of incomes and estates will not be made up by savings contributed by the consuming or non-saving group. It is often argued that heavy estate taxation does not diminish capital and this is true in the sense that

it does not diminish the country's stock of machinery, ships, factories and other tangible apparatus of production in existence at the time the tax is levied But the stock of capital goods at any one time is not permanent wealth It is being constantly used up and as constantly replaced Further the total stock must be added to if there is to be greater aggregate production and a higher standard of living for all The effect on the existing stock of capital goods is not the significant test of the ultimate influence of such a tax Rather it is the effect of the tax on the maintenance and increase of the stock that must be considered

In the U S A, the Federal Estate Act of 1935 applies to the transfer of the net estate of every decedent whether a resident or non resident The net estate is to be ascertained by deducting certain items from the gross estate which includes the value of all property wherever situated In the U S A the question whether the tax should be used by both State and Federal Governments is hardly an open one Both the States and the Federal Government have made use of it Neither the States nor the Federal Government may be commended without reservation for the spirit and policy thus far displayed Until recently, the States were at each other's throats and incidently at the throat of the taxpayer and it was the persuasive influence of the National Tax Association that accomplished a remarkable relaxation of this ferocity as is shown by the spread of the reciprocity movement The Supreme Court has nullified in a substantial degree the resistance of the non reciprocity States On the other hand, the Federal Government has done no better than the recalcitrant States The methods adopted by the Federal Government by the system of credit device to induce all the States to have inheritance taxation have not proved quite satisfactory In fact experience shows that there is still lacking a basic economic philosophy of estate taxation, in spite of the appeal to the ability principle to justify some degree of taxation and some degree of differentiation in the tax according to the relationship of beneficiaries to the decedent This is all that can be accomplished by reference to ability It indicates how much the beneficiaries may be expected to contribute but it does not indicate how much a Government ought to take

It is often thought to be a sign of financial virtue to keep a certain balance between direct and indirect taxation—an idea said to have been encouraged by Gladstone's well known simile in which he likened these two sources of revenue to two attractive sisters as between whom he was perfectly impartial believing that as Chancellor of the Exchequer it was "not only allowable but even an act of duty to pay my addresses to both of them The Finance Member's recent announcement that the Government of India have under consideration the question of introducing death duties in the tax system of the country has not aroused much interest, especially when we remember that if the intention fructifies, it will represent an almost revolutionary departure from past tradition Will such a tax on non agricultural estates represent a direct or an indirect impost?

In India a probate duty already exists in certain areas, but it is limited to particular communities and the rate is low The possibility of imposing death duties throughout India has been exhaustively considered by the Indian Taxation Committee and the question was also discussed by the Government of India in 1927 with the Provincial Governments Some of the Provincial Governments expressed their opinion against it The question came up again for consideration in connection with the financial proposals of the Simon Commission's duties in respect of succession to agricultural land fall under the Provincial Legislative List of the Seventh Schedule of the Government of India Act, 1935, while duties in respect of succession to property other than agricultural land fall under the Federal Legislative List I This division conforms with sound economic practice and was arrived at, for example, in the U S A

after much experimenting. Some variation in the rates of taxation of immovable real property in the form of death duties may be allowed to occur, but inter-provincial differences in the treatment of movable personal property are likely to lead to uneconomic transference of personality to evade the tax in whole or part and to consequent economic dislocation. The constitutional position in regard to the taxation of succession to property other than agricultural land is identical with that in respect of taxes on railway fares and freights and it is defined in Section 137 of the Government of India Act.

Since it would have been difficult for the Provincial Governments to proceed with the taxation of succession to agricultural land without some equivalent taxation of succession to non-agricultural property, it was thought desirable that the question of a non agricultural succession duty should be examined early. So in the middle of 1938, Sir H Lloyd was entrusted with the duty of consulting Provincial Governments on the question with a view to devising a suitable scheme of taxation that might meet the many important objections commonly advanced against the tax. The opinion of five Provincial Governments (other than Assam, Sindh and Orissa) was against the immediate imposition of such a tax, though some Governments supported the general principle underlying it. The grounds of opposition of the Punjab Government were (1) that the yield would not be commensurate with the serious difficulties in the way of introducing it and the great unpopularity attaching to such a form of taxation, (2) that it is far from certain that Punjab would be able to secure its fair share in any scheme of distribution, (3) that such a tax would entrench upon the potential taxable capacity which would otherwise be available for provincial taxation.

Now that the Government of India contemplate this levy, it will be implemented on the principle underlying Section 137 of the Government of India Act which provides that "Duties in respect of succession to property other than agricultural land . . . shall be levied and collected by the Federation but the net proceeds in any financial year of any such duty shall not form part of the revenues of the Federation, but shall be assigned to the Provinces within which that duty is leviable in that year and shall be distributed among the Provinces and those . . . in accordance with such principles of distribution as may be formulated by Act of the Central Legislature".

Now that the Federal Court has given its judgment that under the present constitution, the Central Legislature has not the power to levy the Estate duty of the nature and incidence of Estate duty under the English law, the issue before the Government is whether the Governor-General should use his powers under Section 104 of the Government of India Act thereby declaring the competence of the Indian Central Legislature to undertake legislation or to go before Parliament for the necessary amendment of the Government of India Act before the November session of the Legislature. Whatever the decision the Government may reach, there is little difference of opinion on the principle underlying the proposed legislation But in a matter like this, it is the details and not the fundamental principles that arouse controversy. The levy is just and, if introduced, will bring the Indian tax system in conformity with the recognised principles of modern taxation. An amendment of the constitution may be thought inexpedient at the present juncture but that does not in any way detract from the merit of the proposed duty which will ensure a certain amount of distributive justice in the tax system of the country. It is hoped that the Government will publish the draft of the intended Bill together with details of the proposed machinery to enforce its provisions and invite public opinion.

MILK OR GREENS OR BOTH?

By Mr. R V LAKSHMI RATAN (Senior)

IN a speech delivered by Lord Linlithgow, as Viceroy, at a meeting of the Committee of the All India Cattle Show Society, held about this time last year, he said as a parting shot

> The health of every child and not only the health but to a large extent the intelligence of every child and so the whole physical standard of India's millions, depends largely on the quality and the amount of milk available for children to drink.

Milk is an excellent food, and it is more valuable than any other single foodstuff except, perhaps, grasses and greens Milk contains the required amino acids, and is therefore classified as a "complete" protein food It is a good source of supply of some of the vitamins It is rich in all needed minerals except iron It is particularly rich in calcium It is, however, liable to bacterial contamination

Health Bulletin No 23 includes in its scheme of 'Well balanced Diet a daily consumption of such a low quantity as 8 oz of milk by each individual of this country, presumably because of the poverty of the general mass of the people, while the quantity recommended by Sherman and others is one quart milk and more and the quantity laid down by the Hot Springs Conference is 21 oz as the minimum for daily consumption

The Report on the marketing of milk issued by the Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India, figured out an *average* daily consumption of 5 8 oz milk It is stated therein that the low milk consumption indicates a very serious state of affairs, especially among the poorer classes who consume well below 5 8 oz a day, while many have to go without milk or milk products altogether

The rapidly increasing intake of coffee and tea within the last 50 years has, along with other factors affected adversely the intake of milk by the growing infants and children, expectant and nursing mothers and sick patients

As regards the pitiable condition both of human and animals brought about by the pressure of their number and appalling poverty, it is appropriate to quote here what *A popular Account of Veterinary Research under the Government of India* says,

> That the problems of supplying feed adequate with regard both to quantity and quality is no easy one with which to contend is evident, when it is realised that the livestock population of India numbers nearly 85 per cent of the human, and that the husbandman is often hard pressed to find sufficient nutriment for himself and his family It naturally follows that the supply of fodder for his animals must be very inadequate and that except during the period of monsoon, most Indian cattle are reduced to a state of sheer inanition through semi starvation

Whether the lands under cultivation and the lands that could be brought under tillage in India could be so developed as to yield sufficient foodstuffs of the right kind to feed about 700 millions of the humans and livestock and their growing numbers with well balanced diets (including the minimum of 21 oz milk for daily consumption by each person as laid down by the Hot Springs Conference) is a problem that requires further studies by competent people

W W M Yeatts' remark of January, 1943 "What is needed is first, a goal, second, a method, and third, a continuing determination None of these so far exist as regards the Central Government", is quoted in an editorial article, under the caption 'Milk Bank Wanted', in *Health*, (Madras), which goes on to observe

> Drink more milk was the craze with the high and the mighty for sometime since the advent of Lord Linlithgow as Viceroy Platform orations, there were galore But neither the speakers nor those who goaded them to preach the slogan gave the slightest thought to the question whether milk is available for all and whether the majority of the people can afford the luxury of it Therefore the slogan went the way of many an other earlier one What does this denote? Neither goal nor method nor continuing determination

There is no rough and ready method to find out if the milk as purchased is free from adulteration and bacterial contamination and is safe for consumption Cannot the use of milk, in these circumstances, be

avoided, if all the dietary essentials in milk could be obtained, in increased quantities and at a lower cost, from grasses and greens and their products and gingelly and groundnut oil-cakes?

Even in these modern times, poor women can be seen to gather different kinds of greens found growing wild and make use of them Some decades ago, the use of juices extracted from certain greens was one of the home remedies in this country; and the oldest members of any locality might remember this. Now, the modern nutrition research workers have begun to recognise the high nutritive *value of greens*

The literature on nutrition—particularly the publications of the League of Nations, Aykroyd, Harris, Mary Swartz Rose, McCarrison, McCollum, McLester and Sherman—speak very highly of the dietary essentials contained in the grasses and greens. McCollum has classified green leaves with milk as a "protective" food. He gives green leaves a high place among foodstuffs, because they make good the deficiencies of the seed The Final Report of the Mixed Committee of the League of Nations on the Relation of Nutrition to Health, Agriculture and Economic policy gives table of Nutritive Value of Foods in which milk and greens have been classified as "highly protective foods", and observes:

> Green leafy vegetables are rich in the B vitamins and in vitamin A, they are also among the richest sources of antiscorbutic vitamin C Since this vitamin is sensitive to heat, the dietary value of uncooked salads is obvious.
>
> The abundance of minerals and vitamins in green vegetables and the special character of protein, although present in small quantities, make them of great value, especially as supplementary to a diet containing cereals Just as among pastoral communities the defect of a cereal diet may be corrected with milk and other dairy products, so, under the circumstances, corrections may be obtained by green vegetables.

Compared with milk, greens possess, according to Health Bulletin No 23 and other publications, the following nutritive value per 100 grammes:—

Calorific value: "Agathi" leaves *(Sesbania grandiflora)* 93; Bengal gram leaves 87; Curry leaves 97; Drumstick leaves 96; Fenugreek leaves 67; Garden cress 67; "Marathakali" leaves *(Solanum nigrum)* 68; "Ponnanganni" leaves *(Alternanthera sessilis)* 87, as against Cow's milk 65.

Acid-alkali balance: All green leafy vegetables contain an excess of alkaline-forming minerals definitely above that of Cow's milk whose figure is 2·37 according to Sansum, Blatherwick and Smith.

Protein: "*Agathi*" leaves 8·4; Amaranth tender 4·9, Bengal gram leaves 7·0; Curry leaves 6·1; Drumstick leaves 6·7; Garden cress 5·8, "Marathakkali" leaves 5·9; "*Ponnanganni*" *leaves 5·0*; Rape *leaves 5·1*; as against Cow's milk 3·3 per cent. Whether the amino-acid content of the grasses and greens and their products in the form of juice, flour, etc., could be classified as "complete" proteins as also their biological availability have to be investigated

Vitamin A or Carotene: "*Agathi*" *leaves* 9,000; Amaranth tender 2,500 to 11,000; Coriander leaves 10,400 to 12,600; Curry leaves 12,600; Drumstick leaves 11,300; as against Cow's milk 180 international units.

Vitamin B-1: Cabbage 50; Drumstick leaves 70, Fenugreek leaves 70; Garden cress 50, Lettuce 90, Spinach 70; as against Cow's milk 17 international units.

Vitamin C: Amaranth leaves 173; Cabbage 124, Coriander leaves 135; Drumstick leaves 220; Spinach 48, as against Cow's milk 2 mgs. per 100 grammes

Riboflavin: The fresh, tender, young, juicy stage of the growth of the leaves of *certain* varieties contain more riboflavin than milk

Nicotinic Acid: Nicotinic acid content of green leaves and Cow's milk may, for the time being, be taken as almost similar, until its exact content in various foodstuffs has been investigated.

Vitamin D: *According to Aykroyd and* other authorities, greens develop Vitamin D under the action of sunlight

Calcium: "Agathi" leaves 1·13; Amaranth tender 0·50, Amaranth spined 0·80;

Bengal gram leaves 0 34, Carrot leaves 0 35, Curry leaves 0 81, Drumstick leaves 0 44; Fenugreek leaves 0 47, Garden cress 0 36, "Marathakkali" leaves 0 41, "Ponnanganni" leaves 0 51, as against Cow's milk 0 12 per cent The recorded findings of investigators indicate that the calcium in greens belong to the natural order of the *Compositae* and *Crucifer* are generally well utilized as those of milk

Phosphorus Phosphorus contents of greens and cow's milk may be taken as almost similar

Iron. Amaranth tender 21 4, Amaranth spined 22 9; Bengal gram leaves 23 8, Garden cress 28 6, "Marathakkali" leaves 20 5, as against Cow's milk 0 2 mgs per 100 grammes

Manganese: Except nuts, the greens are the richest source of manganese

Copper: The greens are a good source of supply of copper

Besides the 8 ounce of milk referred to above, Health Bulletin No 23 provides for consumption in its scheme of "Well balanced Diet" of such "Protective foods" as 4 ounces of leafy vegetables, 6 ounces of non leafy vegetables and 2 ounces of fruits, aggregating in all to 12 ounces per head per day, while Sherman and other authorities of America recommend the inclusion of two to three pounds of vegetables and fruits along with one quart of milk and other "protective foods", such as eggs, meat, fish, etc. The difficulty in India is not one of palatability, because the people like leafy and non leafy vegetables, milk and milk products, fruits, etc, but of availability and affordability

The cellulose contained in leafy and non leafy vegetables and other foodstuffs is of great importance in supplying bulk to the nutritious elements of the food, and so aiding in their passage through the intestine If the food does not contain an appreciable amount of cellulose, constipation is liable to result; if too much cellulose containing food is taken, the passage of the food is apt to be too rapid, thus leading to failure of absorption and loss of nourishment and causing pain, tenderness or discomfort in the abdomen

Any amount of education and intensive propaganda about the nutritive value of "protective foods' by all forms of publicity cannot be of any use, when the appalling poverty of the people, brought on by unbreakable outside factors stands in their way of finding ways and means to translate the knowledge into practice

The perishable nature of many of the 'protective foods" requires local production for local consumption in a fresh condition so as to enable the consumers to derive from them the food essentials to the largest possible extent

The only hope of a practical solution of this all important problem of furnishing a well balanced diet to the poor seems to lie in the application of the co operative system, under proper management and supervision, for the purpose of establishing and conducting common Village Welfare Institutions in suitable localities in different parts of the country side for carrying on the operations of growing, dairying, producing, preparing, procuring and distributing foodstuffs, particularly "protective foods," for human and animal consumption in each area, giving grant-in-aid to such institutions towards capital and recurring expenditure incurred for acquiring lands, putting up granaries and other structures and providing equipment and all other requirements, as is now done for education

But, who is to find the money, who feels the real urge for tackling this, the problem of all problems? The present foreign bureaucratic Government with its departments multiplied at will and foreign experts imported galore? No, a thousand times no "Only a National Government envisaged by me," says the Mahatma "can produce a genuine solution" This is God's own truth, but who will listen to it? There is no answer at present

JAPANESE MENTALITY

By Rao Bahadur T. S. NARAYANA AIYAR, M.A., B.L.,

Retired Chief Justice, Cochin.

A RECENT writer on Japan says: "The history of Japan is the history of the movements of men, of the exploitation of the weak by the strong". Until 1868, the history of Japan was one long repetition of family feuds. Since then her progress has been both rapid and remarkable. The people have become united into a mighty nation and have adapted themselves wonderfully to all the mechanical devices of Western civilisation The danger, however, lies in their mentality, in the Japanese conception of the nation and of national existence

To understand Japanese mentality, it is essential to grasp the significance of one feature which pervades the whole life of the people The Japanese believe that they are descended from the Gods; and they believe that they are the only race on earth that can make this claim. It is part of their creed, stronger in its influence than any other religion and is the dominating force throughout the whole of the Empire. This belief in their divine origin has given them a tremendous, and almost unbelievable, conceit in themselves, which obtrudes upon every phase in their lives and activities The key to Japanese mentality is to be found in this peculiar cult which is being inculcated by every available means of propaganda.

Patriotism in Japan is not a feeling which is inborn or express itself spontaneously It is part of the country's religion—patriotism through their divine origin, instilled into the minds of the people from birth and sedulously cultivated in different stages of their life. The Emperor, who is looked upon as divine, is its outward manifestation. With the military party in power since 1907, this spirit of patriotism and this duty to the divine Emperor is kept alive through the medium of an Officers' Training Corps. Before the children are old enough to be drilled, they are taught the traditional songs of loyalty and the modern songs of war. Throughout the *motif* of this patriotism is the superiority of Japan over the rest of the world.

The war with China (1894 95) was one of the most important periods in the history of the development of this patriotism. At the end of this war, Japan got a free hand in Korea and also in Formosa, the Pescadores Islands and certain rights in the southern part of Manchuria. The victory over their giant neighbour made the Japanese keenly conscious of their own greatness. With the victory in the Russo-Japanese War, ten years later, they went finally mad over the greatness of their country. As a matter of fact, it was the intervention of the President of the U.S. that saved Japan from a critical position in this war and there are those who still hold the view that, had the war been continued for some time longer, the result would have been different. But to the people of Japan the great and mighty Russia had been beaten by puny Japan. The whole nation became inebriated with the idea that there was nothing that could not be accomplished by the race of the Gods From the time of the treaty of Portsmouth, the military minds in Japan have thought of nothing but power, power to wage war as they liked. "Napoleanism became the gospel and Japanase Machiavellism the inspiration"..

Following the Russo-Japanese War, the main feature of Japan's foreign policy was the annexation of Korea in 1910 By the Protocol of February, 1904, the Japanese Government had guaranteed the independence of Korea, but by subsequent manipulations, financial and diplomatic advisers of the Japanese Government came to manage various departments of the Korean administration and the control of the ports, telegraghs and telephones of Korea was taken over by the Japanese authoritties. Soon after, in November, 1905, it was decided that the Japanese foreign office should direct the external affairs of Korea, In 1907, two years after the

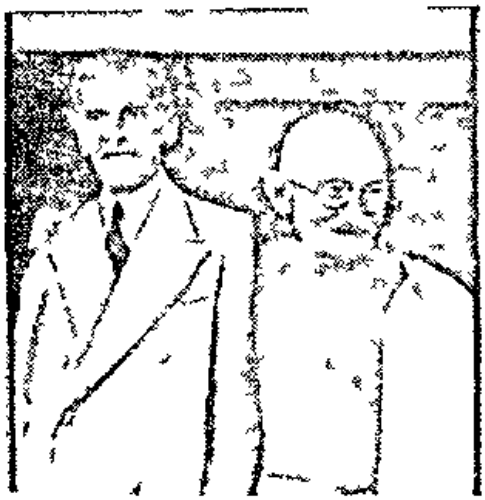
Russo Japanese War, the "Junker" group seized the reins of government and in 1910, Japan finally and completely annexed the helpless Korean populations "The annexation", says a writer, "was carried out with true Japanese spirit Poison, corruption, arson, torture, all played their parts The heroes were, politically first the great Prince Ito, the very man who drafted and commentated the constitution of Japan and, secondly, General Miura who was the actual murderer of the Queen of Korea and who was cannonised while still living The Koreans, who are far removed from the Japanese in mind and in fundamentals and whose civilisation and culture are centuries older, have ever since been subjected to tyranny and oppression

It is since the Korean annexation in 1910 that the dream of subjugation of the East has been germinating in Japan The employment of coercive methods in Manchuria actually began the moment Japan had finished the annexation of Korea and its subjects The seizure of Manchuria was merely part of a wider plan of expansion and conquest—the Pan Asiatic idea which had been in the minds of the military clique for many years The whole world through the League of Nations and the United States passed a motion of censure, but it was still born Japan learned of this condemnation, but flouted the opinion of the whole civilised world She resigned from the League and pursued her course with equanimity The Lytton report gave her no sense of wrong doing "Japan is a race of the Gods and could do no wrong It is her divine right to rule the world" This is the basis of her much vaunted new order in the East Brought up in this doctrine of a so called divine destiny, the Japanese will not fail to use any means however perfidious to achieve their ends International rules and conventions have no place if they do not accord with their own plans and purposes Unless this spirit of arrogance and aggression is completely crushed, there is no hope of any lasting peace in this part of the world

THE GANDHI—JINNAH TALKS

I—NOTE BY THE EDITOR

THOSE who were fondly looking forward to the solution of the



Hindu Muslim problem as a result of the Gandhi Jinnah talks will deeply regret the failure of the same It would be idle to conceal that for years past, the political estrangement between the Hindus and the Muslims has been growing from bad to worse Friends of the freedom movement in India who have been cherishing the hope that this running sore would soon be healed have had a great disappointment The letters exchanged between Gandhiji and Mr Jinnah reveal beyond doubt that while Gandhiji has been willing to yield in some respects Mr Jinnah would not budge an inch Not only that Mr Jinnah expressed unequivocally his dislike of the formula adumbrated by Mr C Rajagopala Chariar Mr Gandhi put his case in a nutshell when he said

'The more I think about the two nations theory, the more alarming it appears to be

On the question of the plebiscite, Mr. Gandhiji made it clear that all the people inhabiting the area should express their opinion specifically on the "single issue of division". Mr. Jinnah would not agree to this also nor would he approve of Gandhiji's suggestion to call in a third party or parties "to guide or even arbitrate between us."

This is the end—a very sad end indeed—of the talks which in the minds of some at least had raised hopes of a settlement of the problem confronting the country.

It would be disastrous if the matter was allowed to rest at this stage Surely, another attempt but in a different form should be made to tackle this problem. Justly or unjustly, a large body of opinion in the country shares the view that it is the third party which stands in the way of an honourable settlement between the two communities. It may be an uncharitable interpretation of British Indian history, but the fact is there and this view has long been gaining ground. It is therefore up to the paramount power in India to efface this impression altogether.

The failure of the parties to come to an agreement has not deterred the British Government from carrying out its duties and obligations according to its lights, and one of the proudest achievements of British Rule in India is said to be its gift of unity and progressive freedom. If so, let it fulfil its task without hesitation. On many an occasion in the past, the British Government has not hesitated to impose its will. "Since the days of John Company up to 1939", observes Sir N. N. Sircar ex-Law Member of the Government of India, "the British Government had been imposing constitutions in spite of Indian dissensions and oppositions."

Without going into ancient history, let me remind readers of what had happened at the Round Table Conferences. The Secretary of State and the Prime Minister said—"We would very much like you to agree, we are always willing to help you in coming to an agreement, but if your attempts in that direction fail, the British Government will not be deterred from discharging its duty by doing what it considers to be just and fair. . . .

The failure of the parties to come to an agreement did not induce the British Government to say—"No agreement, no reforms" On the other hand, the Prime Minister said—"It is a problem for you to settle by agreement among yourselves. If you cannot present us with a settlement acceptable to all parties, in that event His Majesty's Government would be compelled to apply a scheme, for they are determined that even this disability shall not be permitted to bar progress

This is exactly what the British Government ought to do now.

As a first step, the members of the Congress Working Committee who have been clapped up ought to be released, and given an opportunity to study the situation afresh; and the Cripps proposal shorn of the objections raised against it should be presented again without any delay.

Attempts to put off the fulfilment of promises, and pledges have been a constant source of irritation to the Indian people. Delay, delay, has been writ large on the pages of British Indian history. The Government and the authorities concerned should give convincing proof that they are serious and earnest about giving India the freedom which they have been proclaiming they would give.

That we are in the midst of the War ought to be no excuse. On the other hand, the successful and quick termination of the War requires that the authorities should take a swift decision in regard to India. The hope that the War in Europe will be over by the end of 1944 does not seem to be shared even by Mr Churchill. And there is still the problem of regaining Burma, Malaya, and other lost territories. Competent military authorities aver that the fight with Japan might be a prolonged one; and if Japan is to be crushed, it can be done more easily and more effectively with the moral support of the entire Indian nation at large. Mr. Brailsford utters the bare truth when he says: "It would be a 'fatal error' to postpone a solution of the Indian problem. "To have during the War in the East an unreconciled India in the rear may not amount to a danger, but it is a moral weakness which will prejudice our cause in all our dealings with other Parties."

II—A SUMMARY OF THE CORRESPONDENCE

ALL hopes and fears as to the out come of the Gandhi Jinnah talks were set at rest on Wednesday, the 27th September, when Mr Jinnah announced to the pressmen the failure of the leaders to reach an agreement That was the end of the 18 days' negotiations which were carried on at Mr Jinnah s residence in Bombay since September 9 for 26 hours The correspondence which passed between the leaders reveals that they could not come to an agreement on the question of the two nation theory, plebiscite and other minor issues. Releasing the correspondence, Mr Jinnah said

I have placed before Gandhiji everything and every aspect of the Muslim point of view in the course of our prolonged talks and correspondence and I regret that I have failed to convert Gandhi Nevertheless, we hope that the public will not feel embittered and we trust that this is not the final end of our efforts

The correspondence sets out the views of the two leaders during their talks The first letter from the Mahatma dated 17th July, from Panchgani was the invi tation to a meeting and Mr Jinnah replied that they should meet at his residence in Bombay. The leaders met first on September 9, and on September .10, Mr. Jinnah wrote to Gandhiji pointing out the difficulties raised by the latter's statement that he had come to discuss the Hindu Muslim settlement in his individual capacity and not as a representative of the Hindus or the Congress while he himself represent ed the Muslim League

Nevertheless, I explained to you the Lahore Resolution of March, 1940, and tried to persuade you to accept the basic and fundamental princi les embodied in that resolution but you not only refused to consider it but emphasized your opposi tion to the basic indicated in that resolution, and remarked that there was ' an ocean between you and me and when I asked you what is then the alternative you suggest, you put forward a formula of Mr Rajagopalachari approved of by you We discussed it, and as the various matters were vague and nebulous and some required clarification, I wanted to have a clear idea of what it really meant and what were its implica tions and asked you for explanation and clarifi cation regarding the proposals embodied in that formula

Gandhiji in his reply supplied the necessary clarification and urged

that his life mission is Hindu Muslim unity, and the achieving of independence by the joint action of all parties and groups in India The Rajaji formula was designed first for acceptance by Mr Jinnah and then submission to the League

Regarding his capacity, he was pledged to use his influence to get the Congress to ratify any agreement reached

Regarding the other points, he said

The constitution will be framed by the Provincial Government contemplated in the formula, or an authority specially set up by it after the British power is withdrawn. The independence contem plated is of the whole of India as it stands

2 The basis for the formation of the Provisional interim Government will have to be agreed to between the League and the Congress

3 The Commission will be appointed by the Provisional Government

Mr Jinnah replying to this stated that he had urged on Mr Gandhi that the only solution of India's problem lay in the acceptance of the division of India into Pakistan and Hindustan—but Mr Gandhi indicated his emphatic opposition He could not agree that the Lahore resolution was indefinite and that Rajaji had put it into shape

You (Mr Gandhi) say that the first condition of the exercise of the right of self-determination is achieving independence by the joint action of all parties and groups. This, in my opinion, is putting the cart before the horse and is generally opposed to the policy and declarations of the All India Muslim League, and you are only holding firmly to the August resolution of 1942

Replying to the demand for further clarification, Gandhiji wrote on September 11, *inter alia*, I do hold that unless we oust the third party we shall not be able to live at peace with one another" On the question of independence and Mr Jinnah's opposition to the August resolution, he pointed out

That resolution dealt with the question of India as against Britain and it cannot stand in the way of our settlement

In his next letter on September 15, Gandhiji discussed at length the two-nation theory and added,

the more our discussion progresses the more alarming your (Mr Jinnah s) picture appears to me it would be alluring if true But my fear is growing that it is unreal I find no parallel in history for a body of converts and their descendants claiming to be a nation apart from the parent stock If India was one nation before the advent of Islam, it must remain one in spite of the change of faith of a very large body of her children

Gandhiji urged that first they throw off political subjection. He then goes on to discuss the League's Lahore resolution at some length asking for a definition of Pakistan and its aims, and asks for an assurance that the independent States will be materially benefited by the division. He also raised the question of the position of Muslims in the Indian States and then concluded:

Imagining the working of the resolution in practice, I see nothing but ruin for the whole of India.

Mr. Jinnah in his reply set out his reasons for the claim that "Hindus and Muslims are two nations in India by any definition or test of a nation." Pakistan and Hindustan, according to him, would be "two separate independent sovereign States" The consequences of accepting such a proposition, said Gandhiji, would be dangerous in the extreme:

Once the principle is admitted, there would be no limit to claims for cutting up India into numerous divisions which would spell India's ruin. I have, therefore, suggested a way out Let it be a partition as between two brothers, if a division there must be

As Mr. Jinnah would not give any consideration to the C. R. formula, Gandhiji put forward an alternative suggestion in his letter of September 24, in which he discussed Pakistan and said,

that he could recommend to the Congress and the country acceptance of the claim for separation on the terms that that areas be demarcated by a commission approved by the Congress and the League, the wishes of the people of the areas to be ascertained through the votes of the adult population, if the vote be in favour of separation, it shall be agreed that the areas shall form a separate State as soon as possible after India is free from foreign domination, and could be constituted into two States, that there should be a treaty of separation to provide for the satisfactory administration of foreign affairs, defence, internal communications, customs, commerce and the like, which would continue to be matters of common concern, the treaty to contain terms to safeguard the rights of minorities in the two States, and immediately on acceptance of the agreement the Congress and the League should decide on a common course of action to secure the freedom of India. The League would be free to remain out of any direct action which the Congress might decide on.

If these terms were not acceptable, he asked Mr. Jinnah to state his terms which could be recommended to the Congress.

Mr. Jinnah's answer to this was:

I see every close family resemblance between the two and the substance of one or the other is practically the same. Only it is put in different language, and I have already expressed my opinion, that in my judgment they neither meet the substance nor the essence of the Lahore resolution.

On the contrary, both are calculated to completely torpedo the Pakistan demand of Muslim India

And he went on to reiterate that the August resolution, so long as it stood, was a bar as it was fundamentally opposed to the Lahore resolution and added:

I find that the question of India as Pakistan and Hindustan is only on your lips and does not come from your heart

Gandhiji in reply requested Mr. Jinnah to think fifty times before rejecting the offer "made entirely in the spirit of service in the cause of communal harmony" and suggested that the scheme be put before the League Council which he wanted to be allowed to address. Referring to the question of representative capacity, Gandhiji said that he moved in the matter as an individual in the hope that any agreement would be of material use in the process of securing a Congress-League settlement and its acceptance by the country.

Mr. Jinnah in his final letter refused to entertain the suggestion of Gandhiji addressing the League Council and stated that there could be no settlement with Gandhiji in his individual capacity. He concluded with some bitterness:

If one does not agree with you or differs from you, you are always right and the other party is always wrong and the next thing is that many are waiting prepared in your circle to pillory me when the word goes, but I must face all threats and consequences and act only according to my conscience and judgment

Mr. Gandhiji, however, with his incurable optimism thinks that a settlement is still possible! At the Prayer meeting, soon after the breakdown of the talks, he appealed to the people of India not to become despondent because he and Mr. Jinnah had failed to convert each other. Their present failure to come to an agreement "should be regarded as a challenge to their faith, and as an incentive for greater effort to establish true unity among the various communities."

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Chiang's letter to Roosevelt

ACCORDING to a report in *People's War*, Marshal Chiang Kai Shek wrote to President Roosevelt as far back as July, 1942.

. . . . For a long time the Indian people have been expecting the United States to take their stand on the side of justice and equality I venture to lay before you my personal views on this From the view point of the Indian people their purpose is to secure national freedom. The National Congress is dominated by sentiment rather than by reason The United States which they admire should come forward as a third party to strengthen their faith that there is justice

Chiang's views on the Indian *impasse* are well known. During his last historic visit to this country, he made an impassioned plea to Britain to see that India does not remain sullen and resentful but throws in her weight wholeheartedly in the cause of the Allies with which she is spiritually at one He now makes a similar plea to America For the letter continues

The Indian people would participate in the war Otherwise they will have the same feeling towards all the United Nations as they have towards the British—a great tragedy with Britain not the only loser To uphold the British Empire's prestige and safeguard her interests, she should show courage forbearance and resolution by removing the causes of the situation Should the situation drift until an anti British movement breaks out attempts by the British to enforce the existing colonial laws will spread disturbances and turmoil The greater the oppression, the greater the reaction

I hope the United States will advise Britain to seek a reasonable satisfactory solution for the welfare of mankind and the good name of the United Nations Our war aims and common interests forbid me to remain silent

Comment is superfluous All who are in any way competent to give advice on first hand knowledge of conditions in India have said the same thing Pearl Buck, the author Louis Fischer the journalist, the President's personal envoys Johnson and Phillips and his great friend, Wendell Willkie—and now the Chief Executive of the great Republic of China—every one of them has borne testimony to the reasonableness and urgency of the case for India.

Dr Ambedkar's Antics

Dr. Ambedkar's antics are well nigh becoming chronic Whatever else he may be lacking in, a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council must at least be capable of reticence and dignity The learned Doctor is singularly lacking in either He throws a lurid light on his own character when he lets himself go like this at a lunch in Madras

Who could have accepted Gandhiji as a leader in any other country, a man who has no vision, who has no knowledge, and who has no judgment, a man who has been a failure all his life in public life There is no important occasion when India was about to succeed when Gandhiji brought about anything good That is my individual opinion

This is evidently the Doctor's contribution to the Birthday celebrations of one whom he regards as his rival in the leadership of the Depressed Classes Apart from its bad taste it is proof if proof were wanted, of the stinging sense of inferiority that is vexing him.

The Doctor is not content with merely abusing respected leaders like Gandhi and Sastri He indicts a whole nation and its heritage—its religion and literature His vulgarities against the sacred scripture of the Hindus should, in the case of ordinary citizens, have set the DIR in motion

'I do not know," said Sir C. P Ramaswami Aiyar the other day, that a person appointed by H M the King Emperor heir to Queen Victoria who published a particular Proclamation designed to prevent unjust accusations or reviling tendencies on the part of one section of any great population against another—that a salaried public servant is entitled to make has allowed himself to make, will be allowed to make and—I hope not—may be allowed to make such statements I ask the question how dare a salaried Government servant indict a whole nation? (cheers) . . Dr Ambedkar has indicted not only a whole nation but its whole culture and heritage!

Addressing the Scheduled Castes people at Ellore Dr. Ambedkar said.

. If the British have a hundred reasons to fight the Germans you untouchables have a thousand and more causes to fight the Hindus You must be prepared to state that, if argument fails force will be used to obtain your rights

If this is not incitement to violence one wonders what else it could be!

The Atlantic Charter: A New Interpretation

We welcome the statement made by the British Information Service that "Mr. Churchill never stated that the Atlantic Charter did not apply to India." The statement was necessitated by Mr. Phillips' exposure of British intransigence in India. Whatever the immediate provocation for this belated interpretation of what was believed to be a categorical pronouncement of the British Prime Minister, it is something that so untenable a position is now sought to be explained away. The statement he made in the Commons, we are told, "cannot honestly bear this interpretation." What in fact, it is added, the statement makes plain is that the Atlantic Charter puts no limits upon Britain's carrying out her promises with regard to India. That is to say, British pledges to India go at least as far as the Atlantic Charter. While welcoming this new interpretation, we may add that for three years the Indian public has expressed itself in vehement denunciation of what was thought to be the Premier's specific attempt to exclude this country from the scope of the great Charter of human liberties. Yet there was no refutation of this interpretation from responsible quarters. Mr. Churchill's words were:

> At the Atlantic meeting we had in mind primarily the restoration of the sovereignty self government and national life of the states and nations of Europe now under the Nazi yoke and the principles which would govern any alterations in the territorial boundaries of the countries which might have to be made

India understood the statement in the only way she could Not Congressmen only but impartial observers and loyal friends of Britain expressed concern at the British Premier's treatment of a country that deserved better of England. The late Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, described it as "the biggest rebuff India has ever received" and "a source of embarrassment to the friends of the British." Sir Sikandar went so far as to declare that

> if the British were not prepared to make an unambiguous declaration to remove the confusion created in the Indian mind, it would be necessary for all parties in the country to unite.

Neither then nor even afterwards had any one in authority thought fit to correct the public interpretation of the Premier's statement. Even now it is not too late to mend. Why cannot Mr. Churchill or some one of equal competence give the correct interpretation, even now. The loquacious Mr. Amery could now annotate the statement to a new tune instead of leaving the job to an inconspicuous member of the Information Service.

India, the Acid Test

Neither the Atlantic Charter nor Churchill's exhortation to the Italians are of any significance to us in India. Apparently they are meant for the White races. Thoughtful men all the world over feel that it is just this invidious differentiation that is at the bottom of all conflicts. It is as sure to make for wars in the future as it has done in the past. "India's fate, in a large measure", said Dr. Stanely Jones, the well-known American missionary at a recent Bible Conference in America, will determine whether there will be war or no war in the next decade.

> The acid test of our intentions is India. Will freedom be given there? If not, imperialism is in the saddle. Two thirds of the human race is looking on to our answer and that answer is being muddled unless we meet the situation.

You cannot make the world safe for democracy and freedom with more than three-fourths of it under European domination. This was stressed by Pearl Buck, author of "Good Earth" and Nobel Prize winner who has accepted the Honorary Presidentship of the India League of America. India, she said,

> has become an immediate test case for world democracy in the eyes of all darker peoples everywhere.

> Had there been another country which would prove in the eyes of darker people our determination for democracy, it might have been possible to by-pass India again, but the Philippines are not accessible to us, nor the Netherlands East Indies, nor French Indo-China At this moment freedom can be declared only in India. Millions in China, in South America, in North America, in the isles of the oceans, in Africa and even in Europe, are watching to see if Democracy means what it says and if the Four Freedoms are true or false By what we do about India, Democracy will stand or fall.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

Mr. Churchill on Britain's Resolve

"IT is a startling fact that the campaign of Admiral Mountbatten constitutes the largest and most important ground fighting which has yet taken place against the armies of Japan", declared Mr Churchill, the Prime Minister, in a general war review in the House of Commons on September 28

The Premier described the achievements of the 14th Army, which had slaughtered between 50 000 and 60 000 Japanese and said that every preparation was being made to meet a renewal of the Jap offensive

Reiterating Britain's determination to wage the war to the utmost in the Far East, he said We hope to place in the Pacific a Fleet capable in itself of fighting a general action with the Jap Navy and already a large British Fleet was operating in the Indian ocean

The Premier spoke of his recent visit to Italy with whose people he expressed great sympathy, of France whose emergence as a Great Power was a question of sentiment with the British race, of Poland on the future of which he hoped a satisfactory settlement would be reached and of the alliance against Germany, which was never more close or more effective

Mr Bevan's Criticism of Mr Churchill

In the debate following the Premier's review of the war, Mr Aneurin Bevan, Labour Member and a persistent critic of Mr. Churchill, criticised the Prime Minister for having no guiding principles The Prime Minister shifted from speech to speech, he said

Recently in Italy he had praised institutions of democracy, but a few weeks ago he made laudatory remarks about General Franco He has praised Prince Umberto But that kind of attitude about Foreign affairs was not "grown up" because there is no consistent or continuous line It is impossible to nourish and encourage the excesses of General Franco and at the same time expect people elsewhere to regard us as friends of democratic institutions.

Mr Bevan criticised the policy of unconditional surrender for Germany as one of psychological war. He also described as nonsensical the suggestion that Germany should be dismembered

Gen Eisenhower's Proclamation to the Germans

The text of Gen Eisenhower's Proclamation to the Germans was made public on the 28th September It reads

Allied forces serving under my command have now entered Germany We come as conquerors, but not as oppressors In the area of Germany occupied by the forces under my command, we shall obliterate Nazism and German militarism We shall overthrow Nazi rule, dissolve the Nazi party and abolish cruel oppressive and discriminatory laws and institutions which the party has created We shall eradicate that German militarism which has so often disrupted the peace of the world

Military and party leaders the Gestapo and others suspected of crimes and atrocities will be tried and, if guilty, punished as they deserve

Allies' Armistice with Rumania

Armistice has been concluded between the Allies and Rumania

The armistice was signed in Moscow on September 12 after negotiations between representatives of the Soviet Union, Great Britain and United States on the one hand and a delegation of the Rumanian Government on the other

One of the terms announces that all racial and other discriminating laws in Rumania are to be reported

Rumania will hand to the Soviet Union 95 million sterling worth of goods over period of 6 years as compensation for damage suffered by the Soviet Union

Quebec Conference

President Roosevelt and Mr Churchill have issued a joint statement about the Conference in Quebec It says that the President and the Prime Minister and the Combined Chiefs of Staff held a series of meetings during which they discussed all aspects of the war against Germany and Japan In a very short space of time they reached decisions on all points both in regard to the plan of the war in Europe now approaching its final phase and the destruction of the barbarians of the Pacific

The devastating assault against Japan will be made with the resources of all the nations as soon as Europe was free from the corroding heel of Nazism

DIARY OF THE MONTH

—o:—

Sept. 1. Pope broadcasts on Christian Ideals.

—Gandhiji addresses Spinners' Association

Sept. 2. Allies cross Belgian frontier.

—U.S. Senator demands full report on conditions in India.

—Finland sues for peace.

Sept. 3. Russian thrust into Bulgaria

—U. S. tanks pierce Maginot line.

—American drive into Belgium.

Sept. 4. Allied army reaches German border.

—" Cease fire " in Finland

—Pearl Buck makes spirited declaration at India League of America.

Sept. 5. British troops capture Brussels.

—Second army enters Holland.

—Troops march into Luxemburg.

—Allies enter Germany

Sept. 6. Bulgaria asks for armistice.

—American patrols probe into Germany.

—Two German Generals captured near Mons.

Sept. 7. Mr Willkie denounces the major political parties in America

—Hitler confers with Jap Ambassador.

—Governor Dewey opens Presidential Campaign at Philadelphia.

—Russians cross into Bulgaria.

Sept. 8. Bulgaria declares war on Germany. 1000 plane raid on Germany.

Sept. 9. Gandhi-Jinnah talks in Bombay Cease—fire in Bulgaria

—Allied drive in Belgium-Liege falls.

Sept. 10. Mr. Churchill in Quebec for conference with Roosevelt.

—Gen. Stilwell flying to U.S.A.

Sept. 11. Allies fighting on Reich soil.

—Mr. J. J. Singh, President of the India League of America, suggests arbitration to end deadlock.

Sep. 12. Mr. Churchill at Quebec gives a pledge of all out aid to America to smash Japan within a year.

Sep. 13. Six allied armies closing in on Germany.

—Allies armistice with Rumania.

Sept. 14. Roetgen, first German village, falls.

—Reds cross into Czechoslovakia.

Sept. 15 U S. Under Secretary rejects plea for Indian representation at Dumbarton Oaks Conference.

—Allies surround Aachen.

Sept. 16. Roosevelt and Churchill issue a joint statement on Quebec Conference.

Sept. 17. Allies land in Holland.

—Gen. Montgomery estimates German prisoners at 400,000.

Sept. 18. Chinese Parliament urges closer relations between China and the Soviet.

—Finland signs armistice.

Sept. 19. Mr. Jinnah's Id. message asks Muslims to close their ranks.

—Gandhi's message urges unity and independence.

Sept 20. Lord Soulbury appointed Chairman of Ceylon Reforms Commission.

—Indian issue featured in U.S.A. Press.

Sept. 21. Personnel of the Indian Scientists Mission to England is announced.

—Soviet troops in Warsaw.

Sept 22 Allies strike the first blow at Philippines capital.

—Raids on Sumatra.

Sept. 23. Russians take Parnu.

—Congressman Calvin Johnson attacks British policy in the Far East.

Sept 24. Dr. B. R. Ambedkar addresses Scheduled Caste Federation in Madras.

Sept. 25. Massive raids on West Germany.

—Khan Bahadur Khuro, Sind Minister, resigns and is subsequently arrested.

Sept. 26. White paper on Britain's Security scheme published.

Sept. 27. Gandhi Jinnah talks fail. Correspondence released.

—Allied troops land in Albania.

Sept. 28. Mr Churchill reviews war situation.

—At a Press Conference in Bombay Gandhiji explains his offer to Jinnah.

Sept. 29. The Vithal Temple of Baroda is thrown open to Harijans.

—The Arab Congress meets in Alexandria.

Sept. 30. The Calais garrison asks for Armistice.

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

INDIA AND THE FOUR FREEDOMS B B C Pamphlets Oxford University Press Re 1

These talks broadcast by the B B C discuss the position of India in the light of the Four Freedoms enunciated by President Roosevelt Among the partici pants are Mr Brailsford Sir William Beveridge and Lord Hailey among Englishmen and Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar Sir Atul Chatterjee and Sir Samuel Ranganathan among Indians The talks are interesting and the claims of India are presented in a fair manner Strangely enough Mr Wickham Steed who presided over the occasion gives vent to an observation that seems to be profoundly at variance with what one might expect of an ex Editor of the London *Times* He asks whether there were Congressmen among non Brahmans and non Congressmen among Brahmans Coming from so reputed a quarter one might well wonder if the learned publicist was attempting to be fussy? If so the joke is rather poor and clumsy

PACIFIC TREASURE ISLAND By Wilfred Burghett Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay

New Caledonia—the treasure island of the Pacific—is an immensely wealthy island with a unique and diverse population close to the shores of Australia Strangely enough little interest was taken in the island in spite of its great attractions as a colony redolent of French life It is to Mr Burghett s credit that the story of this beautiful island and its people is told in a way that is altogether alluring Written shortly before the Japanese outrage on the Pacific islands the book has not become out of date though the pattern of the Pacific changed almost outright No wonder there is such a rage for the book in America and Australia where the value of this precious island in the Pacific has acquired a new significance since the war

SIVAJI By Romesh C Dutt CIE ICS Kitabistan Allahabad Rs 4 8

This is yet another historical tale by the famous Romesh Dutt rendered into English for the first time Mr Dutt had himself more than 40 years back given us an English version of his Lake of Palms and The Slave Girl of Agra both of which deserve to be cherished as our precious heritage His son Mr Ajoy Dutt who is now on the staff of the Calcutta University has come forward to present to the English readers some more of his father s Bengali novels Pratap Sing and Sivaji have now come out and it is expected that the remaining two will also see the light of day shortly

Sivaji is a masterpiece of character painting Mr Romesh Dutt reveals himself here not only as a powerful story writer but also as a historian of keen insight The story records one long moment of thrills it does not need anybody to say that this tale of the great Mahratta hero and patriot will long be read with animated interest and devotion Mr Ajoy Dutt s rendering is faithful to the original Those who have read with pleasure the father s English renderings will not fail to appreciate the son s sincere efforts also for Mr Ajoy Dutt has taken great pains to see that as far as possible he does not fall short of the expectations of his eager readers

INDIA IN OUTLINE By Lady Hartog Cambridge University Press

India s hoary history its many religions and conflicting customs its 400 millions speaking diverse languages and living under a variety of conditions—it is difficult to give a true picture of these within the limited space of a hundred pages The author attempts to tell the story of this great country in clear outline for the benefit of those who are apt to lose their way in the maze of Indian politics

BEVERIDGE EXPLAINED. By G. D. H. Cole. Vora & Co., Publishers, Ltd., 3 4, Round Building, Bombay 2. Re. 1.

The outstanding object of the Beveridge Plan is to provide, as far as possible, a unified system of income maintenance to cover needs arising from a variety of causes. The Plan extends far beyond the existing range of the social Insurance and Assistant services and touches at one point or another every man, woman and child in Great Britain. Mr. Cole's object in presenting this little book before us is to explain the Beveridge Report on Social Security to those who want its main proposals to be stated lightly and in unofficial language Mr. Cole is an admirer of this Plan and his desire is to mobilise public opinion in its favour and to find a way to its speedy acceptance by the Government. No reader of this analysis will fail to be convinced of the great value and usefulness of the Report. Within a space of nearly seventy pages Mr. Cole has carried out, according to his lights, a difficult task.

INDIAN ECONOMY DURING THE WAR. By L. C. Jain, M A., LL B., Ph D., D Sc. Econ. (London). The Civil and Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore. (Second Ed. 1944).

This book contains six chapters, embodying the substance of six lectures on Indian Economy during the war, delivered at the Patna University in 1942 and 1943. It is highly informative and stimulating on the various problems of our economy in industry, agriculture, trade, money and fine arts as affected by war factors. It proves that our trade in the future will reflect the changes that our economy would undergo as a result of the war. Public finance has been altered beyond shape and there are several disquieting features operating in it as revealed by the author, who stresses commodity controls as being more important than trade controls and points out the fact that Indian industry during the war has been falling behind its competitors, both in quality and in strength, in the degree of both mechanisation and rationalization. Thus Indians have failed to make the maximum contribution to war effort possible and to provide for the people adequate necessaries of life. Dr. would regard the Bombay Plan Economic Development for India as admittedly incomplete and leaving problems of distribution and control of agriculture, industry and other activities, only for future considerat He also makes some useful suggestions with regard to the basic principles on which a proper national planning should proceed.

The book is a good survey of all the major economic problems facing us at the present day.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE PARIS COMMUNE By Karl Marx and V. I. Lenin. People's Publishing House, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.

OCCUPIED EUROPE. Royal Institute of International Affairs, Oxford University Press.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF WAR By N. Subramanyan, M.A. The World Welfare Mission, Trivandrum.

LOVE & MARRIAGE. By Jehangir B. Petit, Bombay.

SOME EMINENT BIHAR CONTEMPORARIES. By Dr. Sachidananda Sinha. Himalaya Publications, Patna

THE STARVING MILLIONS. By S. K. Chatterjee, M.A. Asoka Library, 15, Shyamacharan Dey Street, Calcutta

SPOTLIGHT ON YUGOSLAVIA By M. Kumaramangalam People's Publishing House, Bombay.

FRANCE FIGHTS FOR FREEDOM. By M Kumaramangalam People's Publishing House, Bombay.

THE PEOPLE OF POLAND. By Bernard Newman. Indo Polish Library Padma Publications, Ltd., Bombay

POLAND AND RUSSIA. By Dr. J. Weyers. Indo-Polish Library. Padma Publications, Ltd., Bombay.

DOCTRINE OF KARMA. By Swami Abhedananda. Ramakrishna Vedanta Math, 19 B, Raja Raj Krishna Street, Calcutta.

THE FOUNTAIN OF STATE RAILWAYS. By T. V. Ramanujan, M.A. Madras Law Journal Press, Mylapore, Madras.

POST-WAR CONSTRUCTION. By Dr. D. Pant. Kitab Mahal, Allahabad.

NEW POWERS OF SOVIET REPUBLICS. People's Publishing House, Raj Bhuvan, Sandhurst Road, Bombay 4.

FINLAND UNMASKED. By Otto Kuusinen. People's Publishing House, Raj Bhuvan, Sandhurst Road Bombay 4.

LUDWIG FEUERBACH. By Frederick Engels People's Publishing House, Raj Bhuvan, Sandhurst Road, Bombay 4.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

THE MANDATE SYSTEM

An article in the *Christian Science Monitor* by Homer Metz discusses the question of mandates set up by the League of Nations for disposition of certain colonial areas after the last war in Africa the Middle East and the Pacific, and points out some of the alternative courses of action regarding the Pacific islands

Deeds of trust were essentially what the Allied powers had in mind in 1920 when they established mandates over former enemy colonial territories Unfortunately, the powers did not know some of the trustees could not be trusted.

Mandates were divided into three classes In Class A were the former Turkish vilayets or provinces of Transjordan Iraq Palestine Syria and Lebanon It was specified they were to be watched over by the mandatories until able to stand alone

Class B was made up of German colonies in Central Africa whose colonial status was to remain as it was (under British, French and Belgian supervision)

Class C included South west Africa Samoa part of New Guinea the Carolines Marianas and Marshalls. South west Africa was assigned to South Africa while Australia New Zealand Japan and Britain took control of the Pacific islands with Japan grabbing the lion s share These territories were described as those which 'could best be administered under the laws of the mandatory as integral portions of its territories

All three classes had one thing in common they were not to be fortified and not to be used for military purposes

How well has the mandate system worked? What should be done with it at the end of this war? These are important questions which will have to be answered by the United Nations in the very near future

World opinion has been crystallising slowly on the subject At present the majority view seems to be that the mandate theory on the whole justified itself, although it is as obvious as a thunderstorm that some of the mandatories have not

In the Middle East the mandates have had their share of trouble But all in all the system seems to have followed the course laid out for it in this part of the world Recent dispatches from Cairo and from London indicate that with the exception of Palestine at the end of the war B class mandates will be dissolved and independence granted to the nations involved The British have given a pledge of full freedom to Transjordan while the French have made a similar promise to Syria and Lebanon Iraq was given its independence in 1932

In Africa the system apparently worked pretty well In all likelihood it will continue to function there with a few modifications inasmuch as none of the former German colonies appears ready for self government Mandates may be the answer to the question of what to do with the colonies lost by Italy

In the Pacific, however the mandate system is certain to be completely overhauled if not abandoned The United States has learned at high cost how Japan broke its trust and fortified the Carolines Marianas and Marshalls as stepping stones to conquest Manifestly they cannot be allowed to remain in Japanese hands

But what shall be done with them? Should they be given outright to the United States? Should they be mandated to the United States? Or should they be placed under jurisdiction of an international authority with the United States perhaps given the right to police them?

All three possibilities have been advocated all three are said to have been discussed by Allied Governments

Regardless of who gets these strategic islands or of what happens to the madate system generally, it will be up to the United Nations to make certain that henceforth dependencies are administered in accord with two principles—preservation of the peace and a deep sense of responsibility for the welfare and political development of the islanders

As Madame Chiang Kai shek declared in an address in San Francisco last year, The days for financial and territorial conquistadores are over In their place international understanding and goodwill must be exercised as the lodestar for the future of mankind '

THE WAY TO PREVENT WAR

Mr. Wendell Willkie denounces both of America's major political parties—the Democratic and the Republican—for "preparing the soil for sowing the seed of World War III."

Writing in *Colliers Magazine* under the title, "Cowardice in Chicago", he declares

Both the platforms contain an irreconcilable paradox, which, in its plain implication, can only confuse, deceive and disillusion the American people.

This paradox is the promise that a permanent or lasting peace can be attained without what is popularly called loss of sovereignty We are presented with this extraordinary proposition We are jealously to guard our sovereignty but somehow all nations are to be welded together into an international organisation with power to prevent aggression and preserve the peace

Whenever a party to the proposed agreement refuses to yield any individual right or privilege, there is no agreement Yet it is under similar conditions that we talk of creating or participating in an international organisation What we shall create is at best a consultative pact of "peace loving" nations an arrangement which may be different in words but in fact will not differ at all from most alliances in history

To be realistic we should say frankly, "We are exchanging this small measure of our traditional sovereignty for the greater good of preventing wars among men" Only when we with other "peace-loving" nations are willing to make such exchange for common welfare will the rights of small nations be observed, and only then can our 16 inch guns be used with those of other nations as the necessary and final recourse for the prevention of future wars

INDIAN AND WESTERN ART

Mr. Bensley Nicholas, who was touring this country some time back, is reported to have said that after a year's search he was not able to find, "with one solitary exception, a single artist or art school of any major significance." Commenting on this, Mr. G. Venkatachalam writes in *Mysindia* that he (Mr. Nicholas) had either been misled or had not made any serious or sincere attempt to understand Indian art at first hand.

I do not know if he met in person artists of world-wide repute like Abanindranath Tagore, Nandalal Bose, Venkatappa, Chughtai and Roy Choudhury, only to name a few, and if he truthfully examined some of their best works ?

If he had met some of these artists and seen some of their paintings and still had not been impressed by them, then there is something radically wrong with him. He either wishes Indian art to be a poor pale reflection of European art, with its undue emphasis on the objective world, or is blissfully ignorant of Indian ideals and traditions.

He must surely have seen by this time the terrible havoc played on modern Indian art by the realistic methods adopted and the wholesale importation of Western style and technique introduced in the various Government schools of art, especially in Bombay.

Indian art is the multi-coloured expression of the rich and variegated creative consciousness of the Indian people and their sensitive reactions to environment.

Indian art is not an achievement of any single individual or groups of individuals, or even of a particular epoch, but the sum total of Indian racial experience expressed in terms of colour, form, sound and beauty.

The basic idea of both Indian art and life is the concept of the One Life behind all manifestation, and that Life "elaborating itself through the rich and wonderful multiplicity and variety of form in nature and humanity." This idea runs through all aspects of Indian art, and since Indian art is symbolic, great cosmic truths are illustrated in concrete forms that are suggestive to the Indian mind. An artist's aim is not only to recreate life but to symbolise eternal verities through his art.

END OF A GREAT BETRAYAL

The Vichy Government has ceased to exist, blown into oblivion by the great gale of freedom which is sweeping across France, writes the *Manchester Guardian*. There has been no formal abdication and no resignation of Ministers; the end has come as it were unnoticed in the tumult of history.

For some weeks it has been evident that this Government exercised no authority in France. When the break came and Allied armies threatened from the north and south, Laval, Darnand and the rest slipped away to some refuge near the German frontier. They left behind in Vichy only the aged Petain who may have thought that by his pathetic gesture of resistance he could undo the harm of four years of collaboration.

Even in this he failed. The Gestapo sent for him to Vichy, bundled the old man into a car and took him away—now a prisoner in body as he has long been in spirit. He has been allowed, however, to publish a declaration admitting that he is no longer in a position "effectively to wield his power as Chief of State."

So ends the story of a great betrayal which already—so strong is the pulse of the French nation—seems to have the character of a dream or an illusion.

BUILDING NEW INDIA

This is the subject of an article in the *Aryan Path* in which the writer, Mr R. R. Kaithabu, points out that the national movement in India under Gandhiji's leadership is essentially spiritual and in complete accord with our ancient tradition For religion was interwoven with life so completely in the past that the present departmentalisation of life would not have been understood by our ancestors No wonder then that in India to day 'the national movement and leadership have been definitely spiritual"

The National leadership centres in Gandhiji our National Movement in the programme of the National Congress I proceed from that starting point Gandhiji has made it clear, again and again that his life and programme were absolutely impossible unless founded upon a living faith in God But he also had to face science and its children! At that moment God became Truth Truth was God Gandhiji is not so simple, however, as not to recognise that there is Truth Absolute And That he worships But his life is also an 'experiment with Truth

Gandhiji proceeds from the principle of Satya (Truth) to that of Ahimsa 'most active love' His strength, says the writer, has been due to the fact that he takes the fundamentals of his own great heritage and applies them to the glaring problems of the New Day This brings us to the Satyagraha technique

As Gandhiji found himself facing the tremendous problems of Mother India the problem of political dependence, the problem of an exploiting modern civilisation; the social and religious problems of his people he realised that if a successful struggle was to be carried on, effective methods needed to be developed, just as violence had its own methods There was much experience to build upon, for the Satyagraha method had been known to India for centuries

Again Gandhiji delved deep into the experience of his own people and drew forth Swadeshi, another eternal principle "the law of laws"—pure service of one's neighbour. Gandhiji makes the village the centre of his civilisation

Then any centralisation of such villages would be primarily for the service of the unit This limits exploitation and makes service the ideal Again we are building on a solid spiritual basis caring for the needy and his problems at our very door

The economic programme for attaining economic freedom not only centres in the village but it is built on fundamental laws of Time Man must do his "bread labour daily

In the Sabarmati and Sevagram Ashrams all have had to do all labour. Servants were not countenanced There must be no room for any to think that his own profession is better than that of another.

All must feel their unity in manual labour Sacrificial spinning made the spinning wheel the symbol of "bread labour" and of sacrifice—a symbol of the machine as the servant of mankind Co operation becomes real with service at its centre Labour and natural resources are used to bring the necessary material blessings to all in the village Again, we are working with religious and universal principles

The National Constructive Programme aims at social justice It has its own vital, social reform aspects Naturally all this has its religious import

WAS BUDDHA AN ATHEIST?

This question is answered in the negative by Dr M Hafiz Syed in the *Vedanta Kesari* He says

The teacher that repeatedly enjoins on the people to believe in—nay takes for granted—*karma*, rebirth, Nirvana Dharma, Sangha cannot possibly be supposed to be soulless or Godless the only obvious difference between Him and others being that He set great store by the actual realization whereas others who preceded Him were simply content with the mere propagation of their views

The fact is Gautama neither affirmed nor denied the existence of God He was content to live the Godly life and show by his example the greatness of that life without indulging in profitless controversy over matters not susceptible of proofs which the great mass of people could hardly comprehend

Whenever people approached Him with such questions, He assumed consistent silence and said nothing either one way or the other Is it fair in the absence of any definite statement from Him to misinterpret His pure and simple silence and assert that He was an Atheist?

Deny the Reality He could not because He was one with It nor could any affirmation on His part have brought conviction to His hearers No one, so far as we know, has ever been successful in proving that which is beyond proof

Long before the advent of Buddha, deeply religious and philosophical knowledge had accumulated in India The Vedas, Upanishads, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata contain hair splitting arguments regarding the existence of God and soul Buddhism is the child of Hinduism

A close study will reveal to any student that Lord Buddha taught nothing new or essentially different from the ancient teachings of what is called Sanatana Dharma

Mysore

200 CRORE PLAN FOR MYSORE

A comprehensive plan for the economic development of Mysore involving an expenditure of Rs 200 crores spread over 15 years has been submitted to the Government of Mysore by Mr P H Krishna Rao Commissioner for Development and Planning It is understood that a special committee presided over by Dewan Bahadur K R Srinivasa Ayyangar will examine the whole scheme and submit its recommendation to Government

The plan deals with the development of Agriculture Forests Sericulture Fisheries Public Works Communications Power Public Health and Medical Relief Housing Social Security Trade Industries and Commerce Under each head it sets out the target aimed at in the 15 year period treating Mysore as one economic unit against the background of India as a whole economic entity

It is proposed to increase food and commercial crop production to such a level as to make Mysore self sufficient The plan suggests liquidation of the agriculturists debt by scaling down debt through debt conciliation boards though such boards in the State have not hitherto been successful to any great extent and by the issue of self liquidating bonds carrying interest at not more than 8 per cent

FINANCIAL EXPERT FOR MYSORE

Mr M Subramaniam Accountant General Madras (retired) has it is learnt been appointed to review the financial position of the State as a preliminary to putting through new schemes of economic development in the State

The schemes under contemplation involve enormous expenditure and in order to review the financial position of the programmes and methods the services of an expert was found necessary A statement on the need for appointment of a financial expert was made by the Dewan of Mysore Mr N Madhava Rao addressing the budget session of the Mysore Representative Assembly

Travancore

CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT

By 52 votes to eleven seven remaining neutral the Sri Mulam Assembly expressed their confidence in the Government and the present administration The occasion was a token cut tabled by Mr T K Narayana Pillai leader of the State Congress Party in the Assembly in the allotment of Rs 3 75 832 for general and revenue secretariat in the demand under general administration to discuss the recent statement of the Dewan regarding the State Congress The Dewan announced that Government had decided to regard cut motions as motions by way of a vote of want of confidence in Government

POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION

Landmarks in the educational policy of the Government and the great part which the University of Travancore should play in helping the Government to bring their plans both long and short to fruition were briefly outlined by S r C P Ramaswami Aiyar Vice Chancellor addressing the annual meeting of the Senate of the University He laid stress on the industrialisation of country and the intensification of scientific agriculture The Dewan disclosed that it was the intention of the Government to set apart 7 or 8 crores of rupees for post war reconstruction in the State

PAY FOR NON OFFICIAL MEMBERS

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar the Dewan President announced in the Sri Chitra State Council that the Government had decided to pay each non official member of either chamber an honorarium of Rs 1 000 per annum This would be paid in quarterly instalments

HAND MADE PAPER

The Dewan President said in the Sri Chitra State Council on September 6 that Government had expressed their willingness to finance and subsidise the hand made paper industry in the State The process was quite easy and the work might be spread over the whole country and if co operative enterprises were started for this purpose Government would finance them

INDIANS OVERSEAS

Australia

AUSTRALIA AND INDIA

Better understanding of each other's ways, needs and outlook promoted in the post-war years by an inter-exchange of agriculturalists, businessmen and professional men is hoped for by Lieutenant General Sir Ivan Mackey, High Commissioner for Australia in India

Sir Ivan has taken the first step towards closer relations between the two sub continents by proposing exchange of University Profesors and students between Australian and Indian Universities. Letters outlining the proposed scheme have been sent to Universities in India and Australia and those colleges are now considering the matter.

"There the matter rests for the moment", Sir Ivan said. "It now remains for the Universities to formulate their views." Sir Ivan said that he had discussed the idea in Australia before coming to India.

"I think it is obvious that if a large number of people in the two countries meet on the common ground of their mutual interests and got to know each other's needs and possibilities and how they worked and lived, closer relations would follow. I would not restrict the exchange to University students. In the post war years, I think it would help to have agriculturalists and technicians exchanged as well as doctors, journalists and businessmen."

U.S.A.

U.S CITIZENSHIP FOR INDIANS

The Senate Immigration and Naturalisation Sub Committee after a two-day hearing indicated that Senator William Langer's bill to permit Indian nationals in the U.S. to acquire American citizenship will be reported favourably to the full Senate Committee for further action.

As at first proposed, the bill would permit all Indians residing in the U.S. for more than 20 years to acquire citizenship *immediately* upon petition, but objection was voiced by the Attorney General, Mr. Francis Biddle, that this was discriminatory against other immigrants who were forced to wait 5 years after the original declaration.

Mr. Langer then amended the bill, placing Indians in the same naturalization classification as other immigrants.

The testimony offered during the hearings indicated that Indian witnesses were split on Mr. Langer's proposal. Those primarily advocating Indian national liberation opposed Mr. Langer's bill and favoured the bills presented by Representatives, Claire Booth Luce and Emmanuel Cellar in the House of Representatives, while those primarily supporting citizenship, were willing to accept Mr. Langer's proposal.

The bill, if passed, will affect approximately 3,000 Indian nationals, with 700 who entered the U.S. after 1924, not included.

South Africa

FRANCHISE FOR INDIANS

The Finance Minister, Mr. Hofmeyr, addressing a bye-election meeting at Germiston, reiterated that it was his opinion that *municipal franchise must* eventually be extended to Indians in Natal. He believed that therein lay a solution of the Indian problem in Natal. Moreover, he personally was not opposed to the extension to the Transvaal, Free State and Natal of parliamentary franchise at present enjoyed by coloured persons in the Cape Province.

General

REFUGEES FROM OVERSEAS

Tentative decision has been reached to transfer the care and relief of refugees of non-Asiatic origin from the Home Department to the Department of Indians Overseas.

There are 9,560 European British subjects or subjects of Allied and neutral Foreign States who had been evacuated to India, largest number of which is from Poland and Burma with over 2,600 in each case. Malaya comes next closely followed by the Balkans. There are 600 refugees from Turkey and 122 from Iraq.

Questions of Importance

BOMBAY INQUIRY FINDINGS

The first report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Bombay dock explosions and fire disaster of April 14 describes at length the course of events leading to the first explosion and examines the causes of the disaster The five causes given by the Commission are

The existence of a state of war resulting in the practice of bringing into docks ships laden with explosives and ammunition the stowage of S S *Fort Stikine* at Karachi in such a way that cotton was stowed above and below explosives and ammunition accidental ignition of the cotton in No 2 lower hold failure at the outset of the fire by those present in authority to appreciate the gravity of the situation and during the course of the fire failure by those then present in authority to take energetic steps either to extinguish the fire or to take alternative action to avert the disaster, and the absence at the fire of a centralised executive control with power to issue paramount orders and co-ordinate the various authorities and services concerned

'Many errors and mistakes, both of omission and of commission' observes the report 'go to the buildin gup of the final tragedy"

But we are conscious and desire to record that, with our powers of summoning evidence before us and experts to advise us and with time to deliberate in the security of our Court Room, we are in a favourable position to judge what ought to have been done whereas the actions it has been our duty to submit to searching scrutiny were taken either under the stresses of every day affairs or in the heat and turmoil of a desperate situation

MR SHAW ON WAR AND THE EMPIRE

Mr Bernard Shaw in an interview to the *Sunday Pictorial* observed in reply to the question whether he agreed with the common belief that the Germans as a people, are so imbued with the idea of dominance that they must be crushed

There is no power in the world more completely imbued with the idea of its dominance than the British Empire Even the word 'Commonwealth' as a substitute for the word 'Empire' sticks in Mr Churchill s throat every time he tries to utter it

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR INDIA

Release of political leaders and the establishment of a National Government are urged by the Commonwealth Party of England in a booklet which embodies the Party's policy for the year 1944 45.

The Party's conclusions are (1) All political prisoners should be released and elected Legislative Assemblies in the Provinces re established, (2) Power at the Centre should be transferred to a National Government formed by the national leader chosen by the largest party or by a person chosen by the eleven elected Prime Ministers of the Provinces, (3) If Indians prefer a political framework based on indigenous models, such as the 'Panchayat" system rather than on Western models that will be their sole and unfettered choice, (4) British should enter into a treaty with the Government as a free Ally and at the same time, should make a declaration that the Princes must make their own terms with the India Government

GANDHIJI AND ALLIED WAR EFFORT

'I do not think that Mr Gandhi s recent proposals imply any such conversion on his part', writes Mr Horace Alexander in the *Manchester Guardian* with reference to Rajaji s letter to that paper. Mr Alexander says

Mr Gandhi has made it clear, time and again, that although he could never give more than moral support to the war effort India as a whole and the Congress Party in particular, being non Pacifist ought to give full armed support to the Allied cause provided they were satisfied that the Allied cause was one with which India could honourably unite Surely all that he has done in his proposals is to state the conditions which, in his view, should be fulfilled in order that he may try to persuade his colleagues that it is their duty to associate themselves wholeheartedly with the Allies His own support would still be moral rather than material but it need not be supposed that such moral support be unimportant

Utterances of the Day

LORD WAVELL'S ADDRESS

Lord Wavell, addressing the parents and boys of Bishop Cotton School, Simla, made this beautiful speech:

There is much wisdom in books, there is more practical knowledge in experience, in contact with your fellow men, in travel, in daily work with your hands or brain But try never to cease acquiring knowledge—education—of some kind or another Then at need, you can with confidence follow the precept of Ecclesiasticus 'Take counsel of thine own mind, a man a mind is wont to tell him more than seven watchmen in a high tower It is most important that you should have a good, broad, solid foundation on which to build your knowledge That foundation, I hope, you will acquire or have acquired here.'

His Excellency added

So long as the human race survives, character will count for more than mere learning What are the components of what we call 'character'? I think courage and truth come first, since as a great writer has said, 'without courage there can be no truth, and without truth there can be no other virtue.' Kindliness and good humour towards one's fellow men of every sort are the foundation of good manners, and you will find that good manners will not only smoothen your own path but will contribute much to the happiness of others, while bad manners can do infinity of harm, especially in the East where good manners are traditional Knowledge built on a fonndation of courage, truth and good manners will carry you through most difficulties, and you will surely have many difficulties to face.

Lord Wavell continued:

This war, for all its grim upheaval, is but an incident in the history of civilisation and must not be allowed to interfere with the progress of mankind and the normal routine of life. The world has still to be fed—better fed than before, to be housed—better housed than before, to be clothed—better clothed than before; and beyond all, better educated and given more leisure to enjoy the fruits of better education. All this is possible and it must be done, and it will be for your generation to realise it, and to make a great forward stride on the path of progress. War is utterly evil, and yet it brings progress in its wake more quickly than many years of peace, and it brings into relief the virtues of the common man—courage, comradeship, self-sacrifice—which are so often overlaid by self interest and ease in the years of peace.

You may have heard that I am fond of reading poetry, and that I sometimes quote it. I will end with some lines, written by a poet who was killed fighting in the last war, which have always remained in my head. He said:

> Still through chaos works on the ancient plan,
> And two things have altered not since first the world began—
> The beauty of the wild green earth and the bravery of man.

Those are two things which will last, I believe, to the end of time. Certainly for as long as we need look ahead If you can always admire and enjoy the beauty of this earth and if you will face bravely whatever fate sends you, I believe you will fulfil much of your purpose in life and will enjoy your passage through it.

PLEA FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

"I believe that there will be found in British Commonwealth labour parties the full realisation that those who desire peace must be prepared to take action to preserve it," declared Mr. Clement Attlee, the Deputy Prime Minister, speaking at the Conference of British and Dominion Labour leaders in London on September 12.

Freedom and democracy must be based not only on security but also social justice. We believe that the implementation of accepted economic objectives can only be realised by the application of Socialist principles and policies Thousands of people have realised that victory in war can only be achieved by putting the interests of the community above private profit and are now seeing that this is also the key to reconstruction after the war.

SIR S. RADHAKRISHNAN'S APPEAL

Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of the Benares Hindu University, reopened on September 10, the University Parliament which was suspended in 1942. In the course of his address to the Parliament, he said.

It is fortunate for our country and the world that the Indian Nationalist Movement is guided and led by Gandhiji, whose love of peace and humanity and whose sweet reasonableness are great assets in transforming what might have been a destructive and explosive force into peaceful and constructive channels. He has faith in the power of ideas.

Here in the University we have members of different classes, communities and creeds We have an opportunity of demonstrating that the interests of the country as a whole are paramount and these transcend the interests of all class or communities or provinces or even political organisations. If in the spheres open to us we build up such a spirit of corporate life, we will further the interests of our country.

THE INDIAN SITUATION

Concern that in the face of the terrors and devastations of the second world war, Mr. Gandhi's late judgment or misjudgment of his country's political realities has lent itself to widespread misrepresentations and "defamation of a noble and prophetic personality" has inspired a new study of Mr Gandhi by Mr. Carl Heath.

Reviewing the Indian political scene since the war began, Mr Heath declares

Mr Gandhi expresses in so great a measure the soul of India that wise or unwise as some of his reactions to the British proposals and deeds may be Indian leaders always come back to him That is a vital factor of the situation For, although on the immediate issue they may not agree with him and may resent a sagacity saturated with moral and religious principle and an outlook on life they are not prepared for, they know he is the soul of India and they cannot do without him That he is a 'spent force' is a foolish British notion And Mr Gandhi from his standpoint, seeing as he does life in a whole and integrated way, cannot cease to take part in the political issues that confront his country But in consequence, he is disturbing the moral conscience and one moreover that will never act as an ordinary politician

Rebutting the possibility that Mr Gandhi is 'playing fast and loose with the Japanese", the author points out that Mr Gandhi's way of meeting and treating Japanese violence and cruelty can never be that of the Christian military powers, and adds,

We must recognise that for the Indian struggling for national freedom, war vast as it is is in one sense incidental When it is over, the same situation will be there unless present wisdom finds a prior solution In the meantime Britain has to face in India utter distrust of all her intentions And the burning need in Mr Gandhi's soul is all the time for India's freedom now But this freedom is to him no mere severance of the political bond, though that is an essential part of the picture India's freedom means the advance of India into a new life when all things must undergo a transformation, and war and the whole method of war and exploitation and all forms of human oppression of man by man and nation by nation must cease This is the world of truth and ahimsa that he invites his people to enter

Considering the immediate requirements towards the solution of the Indian problem, the author suggests that the situation be first re imagined by changing places mentally with Indian nationalists

The next step is the promotion of free consultation It is worse than useless to repeat that Indian leaders must first find unity when quite definite steps were taken to prevent Mr Gandhi communicating with his colleagues in prison and these with any outside leaders Congress Muslim, Christian or otherwise The next step in the transforming act would be for the Viceroy to call all leaders together to meet him Would they come? Yes if they knew his determination to solve the problem now and move forward on the basis of the conclusions reached

The author concluding asks,

Is India to look to the West with continued friendship or will she turn in her popular movement with bitterness of heart to a strong combination with renascent China and a new Japan? The days are fateful and our imperialists are sowing a dangerous seed

TEN CRORE SUBSIDY TO BENGAL

An *ex gratia* subvention not exceeding Rs 10 crores in 1943 44 and 1944 45 to Bengal for expenditure on famine relief and rehabilitation provision of more office and residential accommodation in New Delhi and Simla at a non recurring expenditure of Rs 8¾ crores, more amenities for seamen in Indian ports and financial assistance to the United Provinces Government for subsidising the sale of foodgrains at reduced prices, were among proposals approved of by the two day session of the Standing Finance Committee Sir C E Jones, acting Finance Member, presided.

It was explained at the meeting that the Government of Bengal had been pressing the Government of India to give them a substantial subvention, in order to afford relief to the finances of the province It was decided to make an *ex gratia* subvention to Bengal of 50 per cent *of the direct cost of the famine*, *i e* expenditure on famine relief, on the loss on grain supply schemes and on rehabilitation, brought to account in 1943 44 and 1944 45, subject to a maximum of Rs 10 crores this amount to include the subvention already agreed to The grant, the meeting was informed, was subject to the condition that Bengal would undertake to increase its revenue from provincial taxation as early and as rapidly as possible

Educational

MILITARY TRAINING IN COLLEGES

The United Press learns that the Government of India have circularised the Indian Universities on the subject of "military studies in the Universities". The Government opine that "it is undesirable for an University to attempt to carry out functions of the Junior Staff College or a Military Training establishment, as it is not possible for it to keep up-to-date with the necessary details. Moreover the University should be concerned more with education than with *training and should deal with principles* rather than with details. For this reason the Government of India recomended that there should be no attempt to link the curriculam and syllabus for the Diploma of Military Studies with the instructions given in the University Officers' Training Corps."

The circular says that "the Government have also examined the suggestion that the University Diploma in Military Studies should be accepted in lieu of the period of training at an Officers' Training School, but regret this suggestion cannot be adopted."

COURSE ON INDIA IN U S.

An American University has received a grant from the Watumull Foundation for the development of a programme of study relating to India's problems and her cultural history.

The grant received on Aug. 12, will enable the University to begin its first course under the Foundation at the Fall semester, starting September 21. A library on India will also be established at the University.

The new course will be taught by Obaidur Raha, Indian journalist, who is now a specialist on the staff of the Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture.

Dean Robins in announcing the grant, said: "The University has welcomed the co-operation of the Foundation in developing studies relating to an area which in terms of history, population and geographic location is to have an increasingly significant place in world affairs."

ORGANISATIONS OF TEACHERS

Addressing a gathering of teachers in Madras, the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri uttered a note of warning against running organisations of teachers on trade union lines.

At the outset, Mr. Sastri dwelt on the growth and development of the Madras Treachers' Guild and the S. I. T. U., the offshoot of the Guild and said that the Guild had now developed into a body that ventured to look after the interests of the *profession Organisations of teachers were* useful for giving publicity to their wants and getting their grievances redressed. No doubt, great benefits would accrue to education in general thereby.

But it must be borne in mind that though they (teachers) were the persons immediately concerned, they were not the only determining factor in the educational field. There was the Department of Education, there was the University and there were the managements which varied in quality, from very good to very bad. Education would show decided improvement only if all these different bodies pooled together their experience.

BASIC SCHOOL IN SEWAGRAM

The Bishop of Rangoon met Gandhiji on 30th Aug, and visited the Basic School in Sewagram. The Bishop wrote as follows in the school visitors' book. "I admire the keenness and alertness of the children; the courage and skill of those responsible for them I have seen demonstrated how, through the medium of the hand and eye, the perfect personality can be held to grow." The Bishop concluded saying: "For me, education began in earnest when I realised I had two ears and one mouth, and I began *to listen* twice as much as I talked."

SANSKRIT COLLEGE AT KARACHI

Maharaj Sahbramdas Ojha has announced a donation of rupees one lakh for the purpose of starting a college of Sanskrit in Karachi.

JUDICIARY WARNS THE EXECUTIVE

We regret to notice a lamentable tendency of late of attempts by Executive officials to set themselves above the High Court Examples are to hand not only in these cases but on matters which have reached the Federal Court dealing with cases from Bengal and the Punjab They are also to be found in two decisions of the Lahore High Court A similar attempt was made in England observed Justice Vivian Bose and Justice Sen in the course of their order censuring Colonel N S Jatar Inspector General of Prisons in the C P and Berar for failure to forward an application addressed by one detenu B N Saoji to the High Court

When Saoji was a detenu he was proceeded against under the Prisons Act and before judgment could be delivered by the trying Magistrate Saoji submitted a petition to be forwarded to the High Court It appears that by the time the petition reached Colonel Jatar the trying Magistrate had already delivered his judgment and he returned the petition as he thought that nothing further could be done

Referring to the above explanation Their Lordships said that they accepted it to the extent that he had acted in good faith but considered it necessary to censure him for his action Their Lordships added It was not for him to arrogate to himself the functions of His Majesty s Judges and decide what the Court could or could not do

BHARAT DEVI

It was announced in our last issue that a notice was served on Mr S V Swami publisher of the *Bharat Devi* demanding a security of Rs 2 000 for publishing an Editorial containing what was described as objectionable matter , according to Defence of India rules We have learnt with relief that on the intervention of the Press Adviser the demand has since been withdrawn and the paper allowed to continue without interruption

AMRITSAR LATHI CHARGE

Our conclusions are that the terms of the licence had not been contravened in any way that there was no justification for its cancellation that the cancellation order was not properly announced to the processionists nor was sufficient time given to them to disperse and that the use of force was unnecessary and uncalled *for says the Enquiry Committee which* was constituted to enquire into and report on the lathi charge at Amritsar on December 2o 1919 when the procession in connection with the All India Hindu Mahasabha Jubilee Session was stopped and the processionists dispersed

The Committee was presided over by Bakhshi Sir Tek Chand ex Judge of the Lahore High Court and consisted of R B Ganga Ram Soni Retired District and Sessions Judge and R B Badri Das Advocate High Court Lahore

The Committee held several sittings and examined 86 persons and received written statements from six others Some of the witnesses whose statements were recorded are men of high position and status in life No less than six of them are Ministers or ex Ministers of different Provincial Governments A large number of persons who had received injuries also gave evidence

HINDU LAW REFORM

The Publicity Officer of Sri Sankara charya Matt Kanchi Kamakoti Pectam Kaveripak (camp) wires Copies of the Rau Committee s draft on Hindu Code are not available The Code contemplates drastic changes Many individuals and associations have eagerly been awaiting copies for careful scrutiny of the proposals The time for submitting opinions is insufficient Telegrams requesting extension of time by three months are being sent to the Viceroy the Governor of Madras the Secretary of the Hindu Law Committee Madras and Mr T R Venkatarama Sastri Madras

Insurance

BRITAIN'S VICTORY CHARTER

Britain's victory charter of social security for rich and poor from birth to death was announced recently. Costing a minimum of 650 millions yearly, it will give every person in Britain a wide range of benefits for a single weekly payment varying from 1sh. 10d. to 4sh. 2d. Employers will bear a proportion of the total weekly contributions which have a maximum of 6sh. 4d.

As the British Government's declaration of war against poverty, the plan demands from the British people continuation of their war-time policy of equality of sacrifice for the general good in peace time.

Here are the main provisions. Family allowances for all, 5 shillings weekly for each child except the eldest who gets the same if his parent is unemployed, free health service for all.

Unemployment benefit—40 shillings weekly for a married couple and 24 shillings for a single person

Sickness benefit—the same amounts as unemployment benefit.

Retirement pensions—35 shillings for a man and his wife and 20 shillings for a single person (the present old age pension is 10 shillings per person).

Widows' benefits—36 shillings weekly for 13 weeks with an extra 5 shillings for a child and ultimately a pension of 20 shillings weekly.

Maternity grant—£4 and benefits of 36 shillings weekly.

Death grant—upto to £20 according to age.

Orphans' allowance—12 shillings weekly.

Guardians' allowances.

It is understood that if comparable social security schemes are set up in Empire countries, the British Government will welcome reciprocal arrangements—particularly with regard to the British people who may emigrate to these countries and are at that time contributors to the British scheme.

INDIAN INSURANCE ACT

A meeting of the Insurance Advisory Committee was held at Bombay last month.

The meeting discussed amendments to Indian Insurance Act which Government propose to introduce in the form of a bill during the November session of the Central Assembly. Proposals relating to amenities for Indian seamen in merchant marine were discussed. Lord Wavell has already allotted Rs. 2,00,000 for this purpose and the Government of India have appointed Capt. Syed Hussain as Seamen's Amenities Officer.

The Government of India have an ambitious plan for improving conditions of service and living of Indian seamen.

The plans include constitution of a tripartite seamen labour conference, limitations of hours of work, sickness insurance, and the setting up of a national maritime board. The Government of India are examining what international labour conventions have been ratified and enforced in India and with what result. In this connection, the refusal of shipping companies to increase seamen's wages is deplored. Indian seamen are the lowest paid nationals. An Indian seaman gets only £5 as against £22 received by British seamen and £15 by Chinese Negroes. Negotiations have been in progress for over 6 months to double his wages. At first an agreement appeared to be in sight but the latest reports indicate that shipping companies have declined to do justice to Indian seamen, says a report.

It may be added that increase in wages is only a war-time measure and as almost all ships have been requisitioned, additional cost would have been borne by the Government of India. Shipping companies, however, apprehend that increase given now would have repercussions on post-war wages and hence this deadlock. Efforts are still being made to induce shipping companies to agree to the proposal.

Trade and Finance

BRITAIN'S DEBT TO INDIA

A reasoned analysis of India's sterling position and possible methods of liquidation of the assets are featured in the latest issue of *Planning*, a broadsheet issued by *PEP* (Political and Economic Planning) which is a well known independent, non party research group, backed by a number of influential persons

This issue of *Planning* deals with the results of the Bretton Woods Conference and their implications Claims for re payment of Indian debt at the rate of £100 million per annum is well within the capacity of the British productive and economic system without detriment to British standards of life It argues that payments in kind will have to be consi dered and also raises the question whether such arrangements are compatible with the maintenance of the sterling area in its present form

P E P obviously does not share the views which have been expressed lately by various quarters in England For example, the broadsheet says, *The Econo mist's* suggestion that a revision of the settlement in favour of Britain would not add to India's current burden, "must seem rather disingenuous to creditor country."

INDIA'S STERLING BALANCES

The American United Press Correspond ent learns that Sir C D Deshmukh, who came to Britain on behalf of the Reserve Bank of India to negotiate the release of some of India's sterling balances accumulated in Britain, will not prolong his visit Treasury circles say that the "degree of success of his mission does not warrant his further stay in this country."

INDIA'S FOREIGN TRADE

India's foreign trade showed a slight improvement, in the fifth financial year of the war, 1943 44, over the preceding year. In 1942 43, the total foreign trade of British India was Rs 805 crores but this increased to Rs 829 crores in 1943 44, an increase of Rs 24 crores as compared with the preceding year and of Rs 8 crores as compared with 1938 39 The outstanding features of the year were increased favourable balance of trade; increase in trade with non Empire countries decline in the exports and increase in the imports of grains, pulses and flour, decline in the relative importance of manufactured articles as compared with raw materials and articles partly or wholly unmanufactured in the import trade and slight increase in the relative importance of manufactured articles over raw materials and articles partly or wholly unmanufactured in the export trade The total foreign trade of British India in 1943 44 (Rs 829 crores) does not include either the value of imports and exports on Defence account or the value of transactions under Lease Lend

EMPIRE DOLLAR POOL

The Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry at its meeting in Bombay last month discussed what should be India's attitude towards the International Monetary Fund After hearing Mr A D Shroff, one of India's non official delegates to the Bretton Woods Conference the Committee decided to urge the Government of India to publish the full report of the Conference and to defer decision on the question of India's participation in the Fund and the International Bank until full details were available

The Committee decided to approach the Government of India to elicit information from His Majesty's Government on India's credits in the Empire Dollar Pool and further to press for the dissolution of the Pool in view of the prospects of an early end of the war and of the changed circumstances in the dollar position of His Majesty's Government The Committee favoured the allocation of the dollar balances to India on a *pro rata* basis but suggested that, pending the allocation of the balances, all the dollars accruing to India should be put in a separate account and made available to India

Women's Page

EDUCATION OF WOMEN

Delivering the inaugural address of the Literary Society of the Ramakrishna Mission Sarada Vidyalaya Girls' High School, Tyagaroyanagar, Madras, Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri stressed the need for giving girls educational opportunities equal to those of men. While appealing to the members of his sex "to bring women forward and put upon their shoulders some of their responsibility," he requested women not to foster enmity or hatred towards men.

Sastriar said that he could not understand why there should be any difference between girls and boys in the matter of education, which was only a preparation for life. Girls were associated with boys in the home, all through the life their work lay with men, their tasks were common. Hitherto there had been a sharp division of functions between the sexes. That sharp division had been found to be without foundation in the necessities of the case. And all over the world the fact had been slowly discovered that men had been separated from women owing entirely to a wrong notion of rivalry and mutual jealousy between them. Among men that division had been shown to be wrong It was therefore being dropped, more slowly, more fitfully the division between men and women was being dropped also.

CYCLE MINDED GIRLS

Girls in Delhi are becoming more cycle-minded. 5,000 ladies' cycles must have been sold in Delhi during the last three years. Before 1940, there was very little demand for such cycles and women using bikes could be counted on finger tips.

College girls and white-collar girls, working in the Government of India, formed the bulk of those who have taken to cycling.

WOMEN IN WAR WORK

More than 6,500,000 women in the United States have taken employment since December 7, 1941, according to the report of the United States Labour Department Working Bureau.

APPEAL TO INDIAN WOMEN

An appeal to women to support the Hindu Marriage Bill was made by Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, addressing a women's meeting convened by women's organisations at Calcutta.

Mrs. Pandit said that she wanted women to give their individual support to the Bill because women should demand that a change in the marriage law was necessary from the point of view of justice and morality, and from the view point of national prestige and honour. Marriage reform, she said, was a vital reform, the Bill was the first step in that respect and it should be accepted by them absolutely in theory. Mrs. Pandit believed in one social, and one legal code for men and women.

There should be no division, she said, in equality and justice. "If we demand political justice, there must be social justice too", she concluded.

The meeting passed a resolution welcoming the Bill.

GIRL STUDENT FOR I.A.F.

An 18 year old Indian girl student living in Nagpur has written to the War Department to know if she can join the Indian Air Force for training as a pilot.

"I am much interested in flying", she says "I am strong and in good health and have a keen desire to do war service as a pilot I would deem it a great favour to know from you whether women can join the commissioned ranks of the I.A.F."

Neither the commissioned nor the non-commissioned ranks of the I.A.F, are open to women, but the air wing of the W.A.C.I. affords opportunities for enthusiastic women to take their part in the fight against the Japs.

WOMEN VOTERS IN AMERICA

This year, for the first time, women voters in the United States will outnumber the men in the presidential election. The unusual situation is the result of the large number of men in the services overseas, many of whom will not file absentee ballots.

Literary

FREE EXCHANGE OF NEWS AFTER WAR

According to the Washington correspon dent of the *New York Times* the U S will ask her Allies and compel her enemies to remove or minimise all restrictions on free exchange of news after the war

The correspondent adds The U S will ask Britain to open discussions in Washing ton this autumn on redrafting of the convention on freedom to report and transmit news to all parts of the world and to discuss the whole question of cable and radio rates The British have indicated their willingness to participate

The American draft of German sur render terms demands that Germany shall abandon control over communications out side her frontiers give the people the right to listen to foreign broadcasts and give the Allies control over communica tions within her frontiers

CONDITIONS OF WORKING JOURNALISTS

Mr S A Brelvi, President All India Newspaper Editors Conference in a state ment says The Sub Committee appointed by the All India Newspaper Editors Con ference with Mr M Subramaniam Editor of the *Tribune* Lahore as convener to concert measures for the improvement of the economic condition of working jour nalists met separately the Sub Committees of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society and the Indian Languages News paper Association in Bombay last month Questions regarding minimum salary provident fund gratuity hours of work and leave were discussed in a friendly spirit and it is expected that the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society and the Indian Languages Newspapers Association will shortly arrive at definite decisions on these questions

BRITISH PAMPHLET ON INDIA

The Secretary of the Independent Labour Party Mr Fenner Brockway states I understand the pamphlet Our Ind an Empire which was distributed to British officers proceeding to posts in the Indian Army and which I criticised pub licly a short while ago has now been withdrawn by the War Office This is welcome news

Personal

JINNAH S REBUFF TO PERIYAR

Mr E V Ramaswami who sought the help of Mr M A Jinnah for the establish ment of Dravidasthan has received a reply from Mr Jinnah that while Mr Jinnah s sympathies are with the people of the South 90 per cent of whom are non Brahmins it is entirely for them to establish Dravidasthan by their own efforts

Mr Jinnah says he can speak only for Muslim India but assures Mr Ramaswami that wherever and whenever he will have a say in the matter he will surely sup port any just and fair claim or demand of any section of the people of India particularly the non Brahmins of the South

Mr Jinnah adds that he has found Mr Ramaswami very indecisive in his acti vities

BERNARD SHAW S COMPLAINT

Before what he calls the resumption of the war in 1939 George Bernard Shaw considered himself a prosperous play wright taxed on a scale that would have seemed mad to Gladstone or Queen Victoria but within my taxable capacity and leav ing me able to pay my way

Since 1939 the controversial old play wright (far from being a millionaire) has paid income tax and sur tax to the tune of 19s 6d in the £ In actual figures he has been giving the Chancellor of the Exchequer £20 000 a year towards paying for the war

Since his late wife in 1943 endowed him for life with an income from property valued at £150 000 he has had to pay an additional £20 000 plus the income on the estate to Chancellor Sir John Anderson

Cracked the irrepressible oldster last February ' My haunting dread is that some of my many admirers by dying and leaving me a million or so may consign me to an almshouse

NEW GOVERNOR OF CEYLON

Sir Henry Monck Mason Moore Governor and Commander in Chief of Kenya is appointed Governor and Commander in Chief of Ceylon in succession to Sir Andrew Caldecott who is shortly to relinquish that post

Medical

INSULIN TO BE PRODUCED IN INDIA

Insulin, the most effective recipe for diabetes known to medical science, will, for the first time, be produced in India. This outcome is the result of highly successful investigations carried out for over a year in the Biochemistry Department of the Indian Institute of Science, partly financed by the Tatas, who it is learnt, have under active consideration the manufacture of this drug on a commercial scale *without profit*.

PENICILLIN MOULD

According to a report in *Nature*, penicillin mould is as good as penicillin itself in curing certain diseases. Two doctors put the mould right in wounds with no harmful effects. Within three or four hours, the test animals' fever dropped and pain was relieved. Good results have been obtained by putting the growing mould directly into the body in human cases of pneumonia that failed to respond to sulfa drugs and in acute staphylococcal, streptococcal and other infections

SPREAD OF SYPHILIS IN WAR TIME

The spread of syphilis, which so often follows the return of soldiers from a war, will be checked in accordance with a joint U S. Army and Public Health Service plan. Surgeon General Thomas Parran stated at a conference of State and territorial health officers that every soldier at the time of demobilisation would be given a Wassermann test. If he is syphilitic, he will be treated by the Army. After discharge, he will continue to be treated, if necessary. The work will be done at rapid treatment centres, of which there are now 47.

MALE NURSES FOR BOMBAY HOSPITALS

Bombay city hospitals, experiencing a shortage of woman nurses, are using the services of male nurses, both trained and those undergoing training. Quarters have already been provided for male nurses by a leading city hospital. Some of the reasons *given for the present* shortage of female nurses is the demands made by the Defence Services and other War Departments and the present unattractive salaries for the nurses.

Health

THE SCIENCE OF NUTRITION

Capital pays a handsome tribute to the career of Sir Edward Mellanby who has distinguished himself by his pioneer work in the new science of nutrition.

He proved, by experiments on puppies, that rickets was primarily a disease of dietetic origin and that it was caused by the absence in the food of a fat-soluble substance which controlled the deposition of calcium in the bones. This substance came *to be known later* as vitamin D. He also made the interesting, although at the time extremely puzzling observation that, even with an adequate diet, rickets could be produced in dogs by feeding them with cereals, particularly oatmeal and maize flour. For some years no explanation could be found for this latter discovery, and there were many, who were even sceptical as to its validity. In 1937, however, Mellanby himself, working with D. C. Harrison, showed the rickets producing substance in cereals to be phytic acid, which acts by forming an insoluble compound with the calcium in the food. The effect can be counteracted by giving an excess of calcium or by adding vitamin D to the diet.

Among nutrition experts, Mellanby is known as the driving force behind the establishment of international standards of vitamins and of standards of nutrition at different ages for optimal human development and health.

SUBSTITUTE FOR QUININE

Another quinine substitute will soon be available to the public, says a Bengal Government press note. This is Quinacrine Hydrochloride I. S. P. This is the American equivalent of the British product, Nepacrine Hydrochloride B. P.

These drugs have proved their value as a substitute of quinine in the army, where they are widely used in the treatment of malaria.

GREATEST HEALTH RESORT

The region of the Dead Sea is one of the greatest health resorts in the world. It is 1,300 ft. below Mediterranean sea level. There is 6 per cent. more oxygen in the air than anywhere else in the world.

Currency and Banking

POSITION OF BANKS

The number of Scheduled Banks in the country, says the Report of the Board of the Reserve Bank of India, increased from 61 to 76 during the course of the year. The number of offices of Scheduled Banks rose from 1,607 on the 30th June, 1943, to 2141 on the 30th June, 1944, an increase of 534 offices, of which the 13 banks newly included in the Schedule accounted for 155. The total demand and time liabilities of Scheduled Banks showed a continuous rise and stood at Rs 747 41 crores on the 30th June, 1944, as compared with Rs 549 29 crores on the 25th June, 1943. Advances showed an appreciable increase and stood at Rs 211 47 crores at the end of the year compared with Rs 141 80 crores at the close of the previous year Seven banks, including one Provincial Co operative Bank, approached the Reserve Bank for financial accommodation during the year, the total amount advanced being Rs 879 15 lakhs The deposits of non Scheduled Banks also showed an increase, the total demand and time liabilities of 530 non Scheduled Banks as at the end of December, 1943 being Rs 34 79 crores against Rs 24 61 at the end of the previous year. . . .

Revised proposals for an Indian Bank Act have accordingly been forwarded by the Board to the Government for pro ceeding with the necessary legislation

SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

An ordinance was issued recently by the Government of India to make certain provisions in respect of P O 12 year National Savings Certificates and other classes of savings certificates says a press *communique* This ordinance enables Government to simplify the existing rules regarding National Savings Certificates by removing certain restrictions and compli cations which stand in the way of the popularity of these certificates

One of the main objects that will be achieved by the ordinance will be relaxa tion regarding minors' holdings At present minors are not allowed to purchase these certificates themselves although they are allowed to open a savings bank account independently The ordinance will now enable minors to invest in these certifica tes independently

Railways

WAGES OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

Presiding over the All India Railway Employees Conference at Lahore, on Sep tember 16 Mr Jamnadas Mehta, M L A. (Central), said it was high time the Rail way Board recognized the hard work of railway workers for the successful prosecu tion of the war and redressed their grie vances by raising their wages hundred per cent and by granting them a dearness allowance of not less than Rs 45 per mensem

Mr Mehta appealed to railway employees to rally round the banner of the Federation

The main resolution adopted at the Con ference incorporated the chief demands of railwaymen as outlined in the President's speech and catalogued the grievances against the Railway Administration The resolu tion stated in part, "This All India Rail way Employees' Conference severely condemns the Railway Board, which has been ceaselessly exploiting the railway workers for years and years together and which, instead of compensating the staff for the hard and laborious work they are putting in during the war as most faithful Allies of democratic forces, has further intensified their exploitation and deprived them of the privileges won by them before the war.

Another resolution dealt with the protec tion of railwaymen's interests after the termination of the war and asked them to resist all possible attempts of the Railway Board to retrench them or reduce their salaries The Conference requested the Rail waymen's Federation to bring pressure on the Railway Board, so that it may not contemplate any such retrenchment or cut in salaries "

A reduction in the number of working hours was urged through another resolu tion The Conference also demanded an increase in travelling and other allowances because of the rise in prices

One resolution dealt with the "mis management" of grain shops opened by the Railway Administration The Conference demanded that the personnel of all such shops should be appointed in consultation with recognized Unions.

Art and Drama

ART-IN-INDUSTRY EXHIBITION

The fifth Art in-Industry Exhibition, organised by the Burmah-Shell in co opera tion with Mr. C. R. Gerrard, of the Sir J. J. School of Art, will be opened in Bombay City by the Governor of Bombay early in January next Besides the Government of India, the Governments of Bombay and Bengal and the States of Kashmir and Mysore, over 80 industries, both foreign and Indian, and many prominent citizens are among the donors to the exhibition and supporters of the Art in Industry movement.

The total prize money available exceeds Rs. 25,000, the largest sum ever offered in any art exhibition in this country. Four scholarships of Rs. 1,000 each are reserved for students whose work is most likely to benefit from further tuition. According to the prospectus issued by the organisers, entries will be accepted at the Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay, not later than November 20, and at forwarding centres not later than November 1.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS OF INDIA

Third in I.F.I.'s series on cultural subjects, is the "Musical Instruments of India" recently shown in Madras.

There are more than 500 such instruments, many of them immemorially ancient in design and with a deep religious significance in India.

Director Madhu Bose has selected the best and most appealing instruments from among these and grouped them into three main divisions—String instruments, Wind instruments and Percussion instruments.

After a brief description of each instrument, stressing its complicated design and true musical significance, master musicians give a brief recital on instruments of which they are renowned exponents.

The galaxy of musical talent featured in I.F.I.'s "Musical Instruments of India" includes Professor Venkatagirippa, State Musician, Mysore Darbar, playing on the Veena, Professor Vilayat Khan playing the Sitar, Professor Gopal Missir of Benares on the Sarangi, Pannalal Ghose of Calcutta playing his favourite instrument, the flute, and Professor Anokhi Lal of Benares giving demonstration on the Tabla.

Sport

POST-WAR SPORTS BOOM COMING UP

The War Department recently announced that the athletic branch of the Special Service Branch, U.S. Army, is planning a world-wide programme to include all types of competitive sports. Lieut.-Col. Henry W. Clark, former sports director at Lafayette College, has been put in charge. This news, plus the announcement that the armed services are buying 90 per cent. of all sports equipment produced in the U.S., has bolstered the contention of sports authorities that there will be another sports boom after the war such as occurred after the last war.

PROVINCIAL TABLE TENNIS FINALS

U. M. Chandarana, the All-India champion, was beaten by R. S. Cooper, after 5 thrilling games in the men's singles final of the Bombay Provincial Table Tennis Championships on Sunday, the 17th September. Chandarana gave one of his best displays, and often outdrove Cooper, but the latter's remarkable powers of recovery and brilliant defensive play overcame the champion.

Miss R. K. Shroff won the women's *singles final, beating Miss P. F. Madon, easily* in 4 games.

WORLD BANTAM WEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP

Manuel Ortiz of Mexico, the world bantamweight champion, successfully defended his title for the eleventh time at Los Angelos on September 12, when gaining a technical knockout over Luis Castillo of Mexico City. Castillo was slightly ahead on points when in the fourth round, the champion split his left eye with a terrific right. The referee stopped the fight to have physicians examine the injury. He awarded Ortiz a technical knock out on hearing the doctor's report. Both boxers scaled 118 lbs.

INTER VARSITY SWIMMING RECORDS

The new All-India University records were set up on September 12 at the Calcutta University swimming contest by Pratip Mitter and Haribar Banerjee in 100 metres back stroke and 100 metres breast stroke, respectively, the former covering in 1 minute *26 1/5 seconds.*

PROF HILL ON INDIAN SCIENTISTS

The aid of Science in Indian development is the subject of a leader page article in *The Times* by Prof. A. V. Hill, M.P., Secretary of the Royal Society.

The coming visit of a group of Indian scientific men to this country, says Prof Hill, will give an opportunity of establishing closer relations than have hitherto existed between the new scientific organisations of all kinds in India and their opposite numbers in the United Kingdom and elsewhere

India has been sorely cut off in recent years from intellectual contacts with the outside world, and one chief purpose of this visit is to restore and extend those contacts and to plan arrangements for collaboration and exchange There may be isolationism in India—but not among scientific men

Prof. Hill urges that one of the most pressing requirements of Indian science frankly recognised in India will be opportunities for higher study and research abroad for abler young people, the future scientific leaders, who have been piling up during the war period. The same need exists in medicine, engineering, industry and many other fields.

"In trying to meet it," Prof. Hill adds,

we must help all we can, but it will not be easy to find spare places in our universities, hospitals and research establishments at a time when all our own young people will be returning from the war, and I think we can rightly ask that those who come here from India in the next few years of exigency should be carefully selected before they start.

Moreover, many of the ablest and most suitable people will be unable to bear the expense themselves It will be worthwhile for India to provide them with travelling bursaries or scholarships, the sterling balance is now so large that any possible expenditure of this kind will be completely insignificant and it is difficult to imagine any better way of spending it.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

Mr. A. G. Pai, M A. (Cantab), Principal of the Rajarishi College, Alwar, has been appointed Registrar of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, for a period of one year in the first instance, consequent on Mr. R P. Bahadur, the present Registrar, having been granted one year's leave.

DU PAVER ON INDIAN FILMS

"The Indian screen ought to be the expression of the culture, intellect and problems of the people of the country if it desires improvement," said Mr. Du Paver (late of *North American Press in Paris* and Film Critic and Political Correspondent now serving with the Army) at a meeting of the South *Indian Cine Technicians' Association* held on September 18 at the Gemini Preview Theatre, Madras

Mr. K. Ramnoth in introducing the speaker to the audience, pointed out how the quality of the Indian filme in general had fallen low.

Mr Du Paver speaking on his reactions to Indian films said that Indian flims must have local colour. They should henceforth stop showing mostly temples, tanks, etc. There would be no point in seeing films which had no message or instruction to impart to the masses Films should have a definite purpose, that of enlightening the *masses. Indian films, he was sorry to find,* failed in this respect in most cases.

As regards the stories which were filmed, he was disappointed to find that they in reality served no purpose at all in improving and developing the mind of the people. The story must be simple so that the average man could understand it with ease. It should have continuity and should not be spoiled in the middle by the introduction of uninteresting episodes.

He appreciated the classical dances and in conclusion, struck an optimistic note that, given the opportunity and help which it needed and deserved, India would become a centre of art, industry and culture in the whole of the South East Asia. He added that the Indian film industry should be subsidised by the Government.

INFORMATION FILMS OF INDIA

The latest releases of the Information Films of India, a special show of which was given recently at the New Globe, Madras, indicate the directions in which the organisation is expanding its activities. The show lasted for an hour and half. It is proposed to make this show a monthly feature

Automobiles

DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS MOTOR VEHICLES

A Central Advisory Committee and five Regional Committees have been set up by the Central Government to provide machinery for the active participation of industrial and commercial interests in the disposal of stocks of motor vehicles which are no longer required by the Defence Services and are available for civilian use. This machinery will enable Government to regulate the disposal of surplus stocks at reasonable prices with the minimum disturbance to the existing economy of the country and securing, at the same time, the most beneficial utilisation of the material available for disposal.

Under this scheme India has been divided into 5 zones, and a Regional Committee, consisting of 3 representatives of the motor industry and a representative of the Supply Department, has been set up in each zone The Regional Committee will function at the zonal centres, *i.e.*, Lahore, Madras, Calcutta, Bombay and Cawnpore These Committees will act as technical advisers to Government and their functions will include classification of Mechanical Transport Vehicles into 3 categories, *viz*, (i) vehicles that do not require extensive repairs but can be reconditioned (ii) vehicles which are beyond economic repair but can be fabricated into trailers or bullock carts and (iii) vehicles which can only be broken up and sold as scrap. They will, at the same time, allocate the work of repair, reconditioning, breakdown, etc., to dealers in their zones

The Central Advisory Committee, which is to function at Delhi, consists of a representative elected by each of the five Regional Committees and three representatives of Government.

FORD COMPANY WAGES

Mr. Henry Ford has announced that he intends to raise the wages of Ford Motor Company employees "as soon as Government will permit me. As long as I live, I want to pay the highest wages in the automobile business. Every man should make enough money to own a home, a piece of land and a car."

Aviation

PREVENTING AIR ACCIDENTS

According to *American Aviation*, the Civil Aeronautics Administration is discussing the installation in each passenger aircraft of a recorder to preserve every *word spoken in the pilots' compartment*. It is hoped by this means to ascertain the causes of crashes such as a recent one in which both pilot and co-pilot were killed. The recording device would be enclosed in asbestos and placed in the tail of the aircraft. So long as the pilot lived, he would have exclusive possession of the record of his conversation. But should his aircraft crash in flight, this record would be turned over to Government authorities. It is pointed out that present air communication between pilot and control towers is not always satisfactory when a pilot gets into difficulties Both pilots are then too busy to give the control tower a running account of what is transpiring, but their own conversation might give a tip-off to what was happening. This information could be valuable to both Government and industry in preventing future accidents.

INTERNATIONAL AVIATION CONFERENCE

The State Department has announced that more than 50 countries have been invited by the U.S. Government to an international conference on civil aviation in the U S. beginning on November 1.

The invitation proposes that the countries attending the conference, in addition to laying out a provisional system of routes for international air transport, should also take steps to firstly, establish an "interim council" to serve as a clearing house until a permanent aeronautical body is created and, secondly, agree upon the principles to be followed in setting up a permanent international aeronautical business now, with a permanent treaty cover both the economic and technical aspects of international aviation."

LONDON TO OTTAWA IN 19 HOURS

The first non stop flight between London and Ottawa was completed recently by an aircraft of the R.A.F. Transport Command in 19 hours 9 minutes.

SIR A. R MUDALIAR ON INDUSTRIALISATION

Sir A Ramaswami Mudaliar, Supply Member, opening the National Rolling Mill near Calcutta, on September 18, said that the progress the country had made during this war, especially industrial progress, was a matter of great satisfaction To some extent, it had exceeded pre war ideas

The Supply Member said that the success of the industrialisation of the country in the post war period would depend largely on the co operative effort of the people themselves The war had brought its own problems and all pre conceived plans had to be put aside He was however, glad that while one set of plans had to be put aside another set of plans were now in existence

STATISTICS OF INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT

Various Indian industries were, on an average, employing 24 87 246 workers daily in 1943 as against 22 82,237 in 1942, according to the annual statistics of factories collected in the Labour Department of the Central Government Government and local fund factories employed 355 873 men in 1943 as against 299 893 in the previous year In the case of all other factories the number rose from 19 82 344 in 1942 to 20 81 373 in 1943

The largest number of men were employed in Bombay, where the figure for daily average employment stood at 711 525 Industries in Bengal employed 695 043 men while those in Madras 262 347 men

GLASS INDUSTRY IN INDIA

A comprehensive survey of the Indian glass industry from its beginnings down to the present day, is contained in an article in the August issue of the *Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research* In view of the circumstance that the raw materials required for the industry are available in abundance and that there is a big home market for glass articles the scope for its expansion in the post war period is very bright indeed The recent decision of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research to establish a Central Glass and Silicate Research Institute at Calcutta, supplies a very vital requirement of the industry

PROPERTY TAX ON AGRICULTURAL LAND

A bill to validate the levy by municipal councils of property tax on lands used exclusively for agricultural purposes in certain areas has been published in the *Fort St George Gazette* for the purpose of eliciting public opinion The bill will be considered on or before October 5 1944 and any objection or suggestion which may be received before the said date by the Secretary to the Local Administration Department will be considered

The statement of objects and reasons attached to the bill says that certain municipal councils have been levying property tax on lands used exclusively for agricultural purposes under Section 81 (2) instead of under Section 81 (4) of the Madras Districts Municipalities Act The legality of the levy has been called in question in a recent case The tax levied under Section 81 (2) was usually somewhat higher than the amount leviable under Section 81 (4) The finances of most of the municipal councils do not permit the making of a refund of the excess amounts collected and already expended for municipal purposes It is therefore considered necessary to validate the levy which has already been made It is considered necessary to validate the levy also in respect of the half year ending on September 30 1944, and to make it clear that the provisions of the bill will not affect any decree or order of a civil court which has become final before this measure becomes law

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN INDIA

The Governing Body of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research which met recently at Delhi has urged the Central Government to sanction an annual grant of Rs 50 lakhs to the Council, in view of the inadequacy of the Council s present income (which is in the neighbourhood of Rs 8 lakhs per year) said Mr R M Sundaram, I C S, Additional Secretary, Development Department, who represented the Madras Government at the Delhi meeting and who returned recently to Madras The Council s plan is to utilise the Rs 50 lakhs (if sanctioned) for furtherance of various schemes of agricultural research,

Labour

GANDHIJI'S APPEAL TO VILLAGE WORKERS

"I again insist that our workers have got a very wide field in the seven lakhs of villages where they have to build up an organization, maintain it and foster it by spreading the message of the 'charkha'," said Mahatma Gandhi addressing the workers of the Charkha Sangh at Wardha on September 2 He added "I am confident that the spinning wheel will bring us Swaraj if we go fearlessly the right way."

The "charkha", he said, provided bread for a million workers, among whom about five crores of rupees were distributed. He invited opinions on the advisability of co ordinating the work of the All-India Spinners' Association, All India Village Industries' Association and the Hindustani Talimi Sangha activities, as the aims of all these three organizations are the promotion of village uplift.

ESTABLISHMENT OF LABOUR COLONIES

The establishment of labour colonies at Government expense, which in course of time, should become workers' property, was suggested by the labour leaders when they met Sir Frederick James, M.L.A. (Central), and Dr. Ahmed, Member of the Health Survey and Development Committee at Amritsar.

The labour representatives suggested to the Committee that workers should be provided adequate medical, health, educational and reading room facilities in such colonies and that boys below 15 years should not be permitted to work in factories.

The committee members recently visited some of the local factories to examine living conditions of workers and discussed the connected problems with the representatives of factory owners.

INDIAN SEAMEN'S WAGES

Mr. Aftab Ali, President of the Indian Seamen's Union, states that a tentative settlement regarding seamen's wages has been reached with the shipowners. The terms of the settlement will be announced shortly.

General

3,000-YEAR-OLD STONE IMAGE

A 3,000-year-old stone image of the Hindu God Mahavishnu was discovered by village cowboys while playing in a field.

Some cowboys of village Eksar were digging at a rat's hole in a wheat field, it appears, when they struck upon a dark object and dug harder to find out what it was.

The image, when excavated, was reported to the authorities and examined by an expert, who declared that it belonged to the period about 10th century.

LIGNITE IN MALABAR COAST

Large deposits of lignite (a form of coal) have been noticed in Cannanore, a Press Note says. The occurrence of lignite in Cannanore (Malabar Dt) was investigated by the Geological Survey of India. The present investigation in Cannanore revealed an exposure of lignite and dark grey clays nearly 100 ft. in length at the base of a cliff facing the sea about half a mile north of Fort St. Anjelo and due west of the European Club. A smaller patch in length was found exposed some 500 ft. further north of the first exposure. The lignite formations consist of intercalated banks of lignite and dark grey clay.

HUMAN TORPEDOES

Human torpedoes manned by British sailors in diving suits, have been used with conspicuous success in operations against hostile ships.

This secret weapon was disclosed by the Admiralty simultaneously with the announcement that medals have been awarded to four men who formed crews of two "human torpedoes" in a daring night attack on a hostile base.

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"So sorry, this my garden now."

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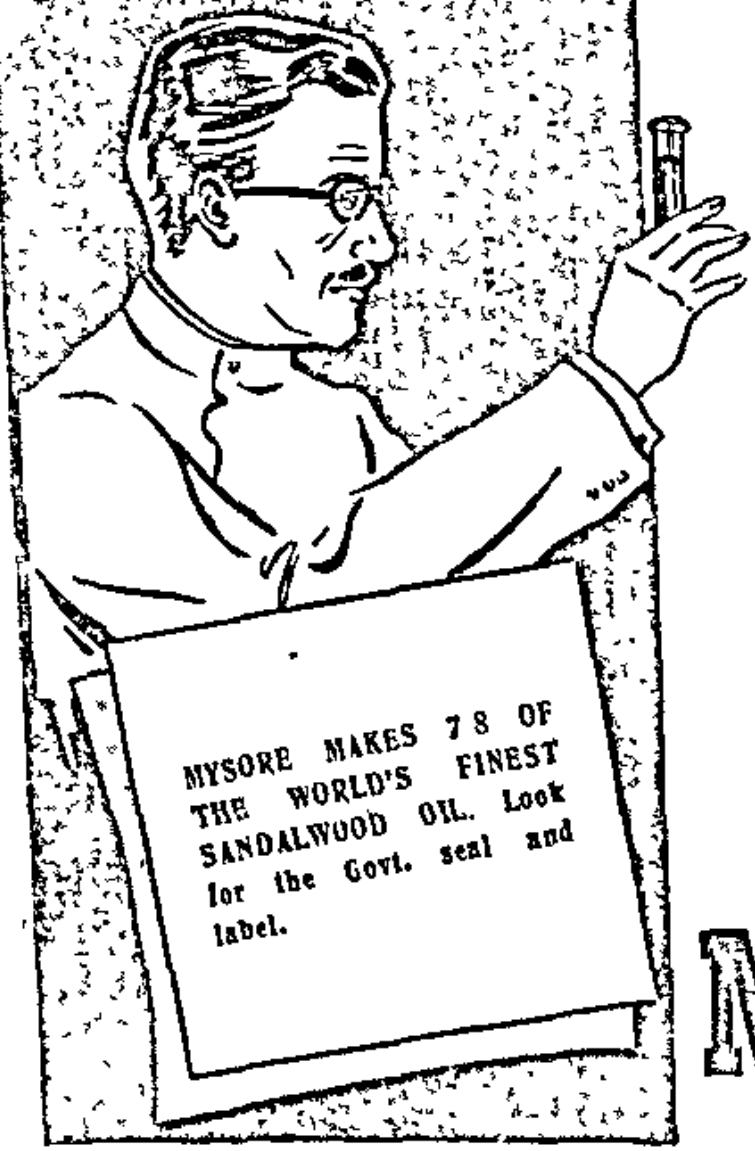
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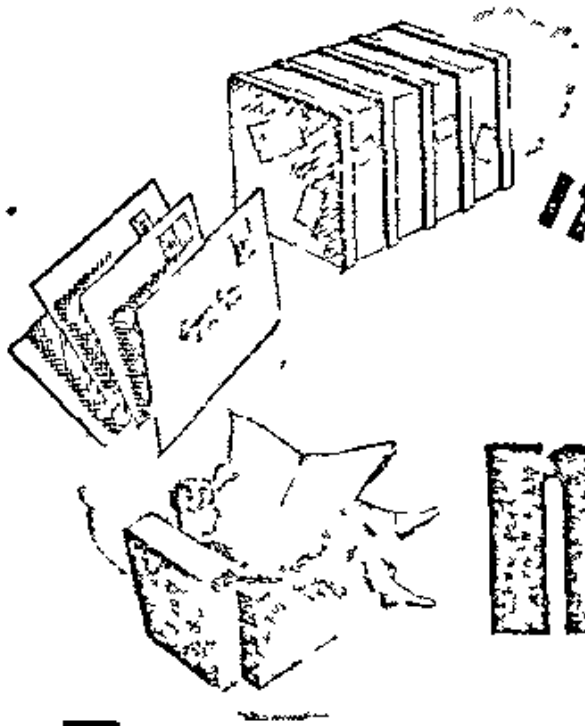
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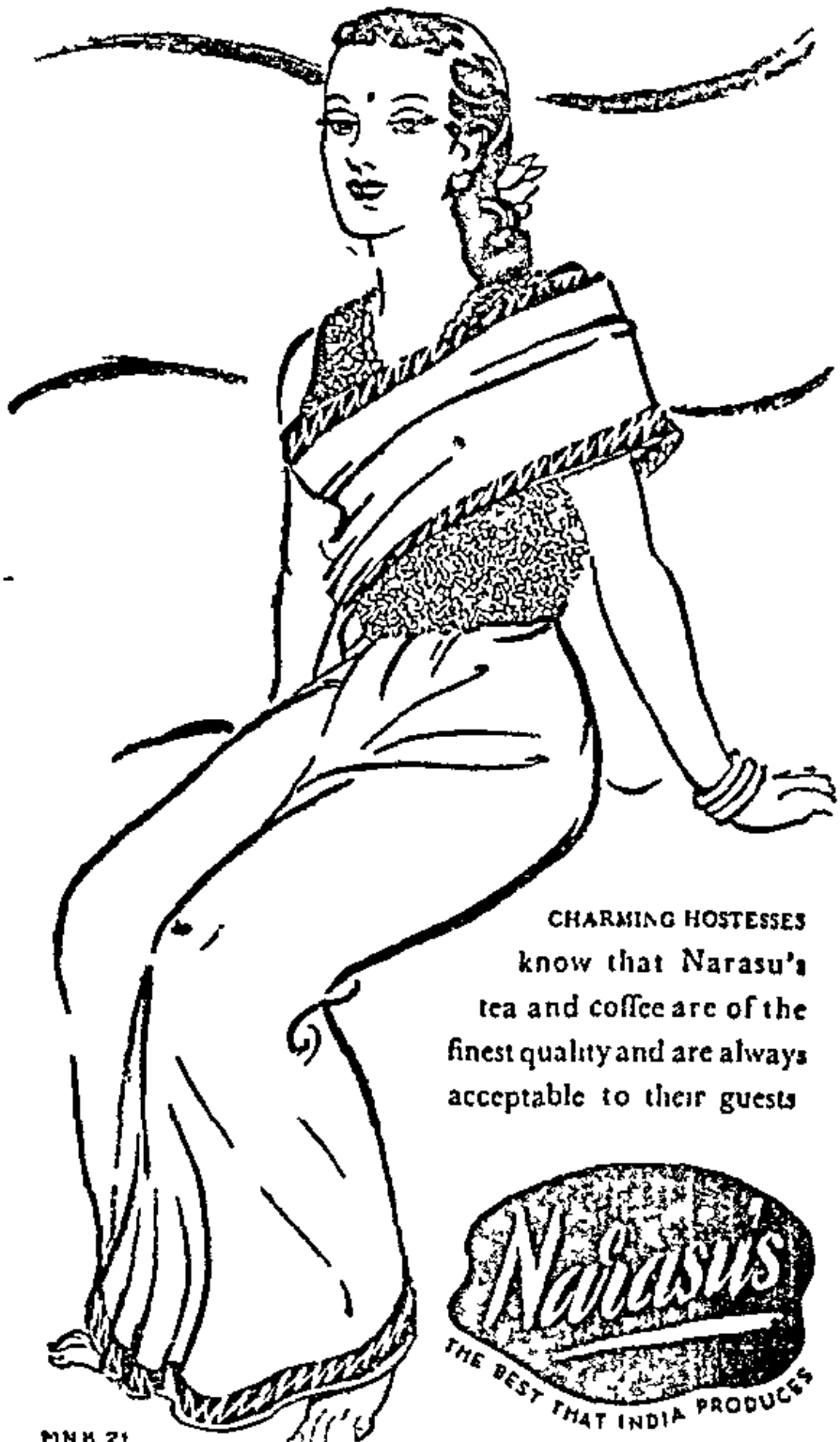


If you want to AVOID the discomfort and inconvenience of wartime travel, you can always think of an excuse
If it's a marriage you should attend, you can send the rail fare as a practical present, but stay at home yourself
If it's business, you can conduct it just as well by correspondence
If it's a religious festival you can send an offering by money order.
If it's a holiday, no excuse is required
Who wants to spend hard-earned leave, crushed into a railway compartment spending twice as much money as ever before on tongas, gharis and other incidentals? Spend your leave near home—get a real rest, and the maximum benefit from those precious days
But if you want an over-riding excuse, it is that the Railways are busy. They have to feed all the people of India, and assure the supplies of other necessities of life So great is their task that passenger travel must be reduced
If, even so, you MUST travel, then travel with little luggage, and leave your servant at home.

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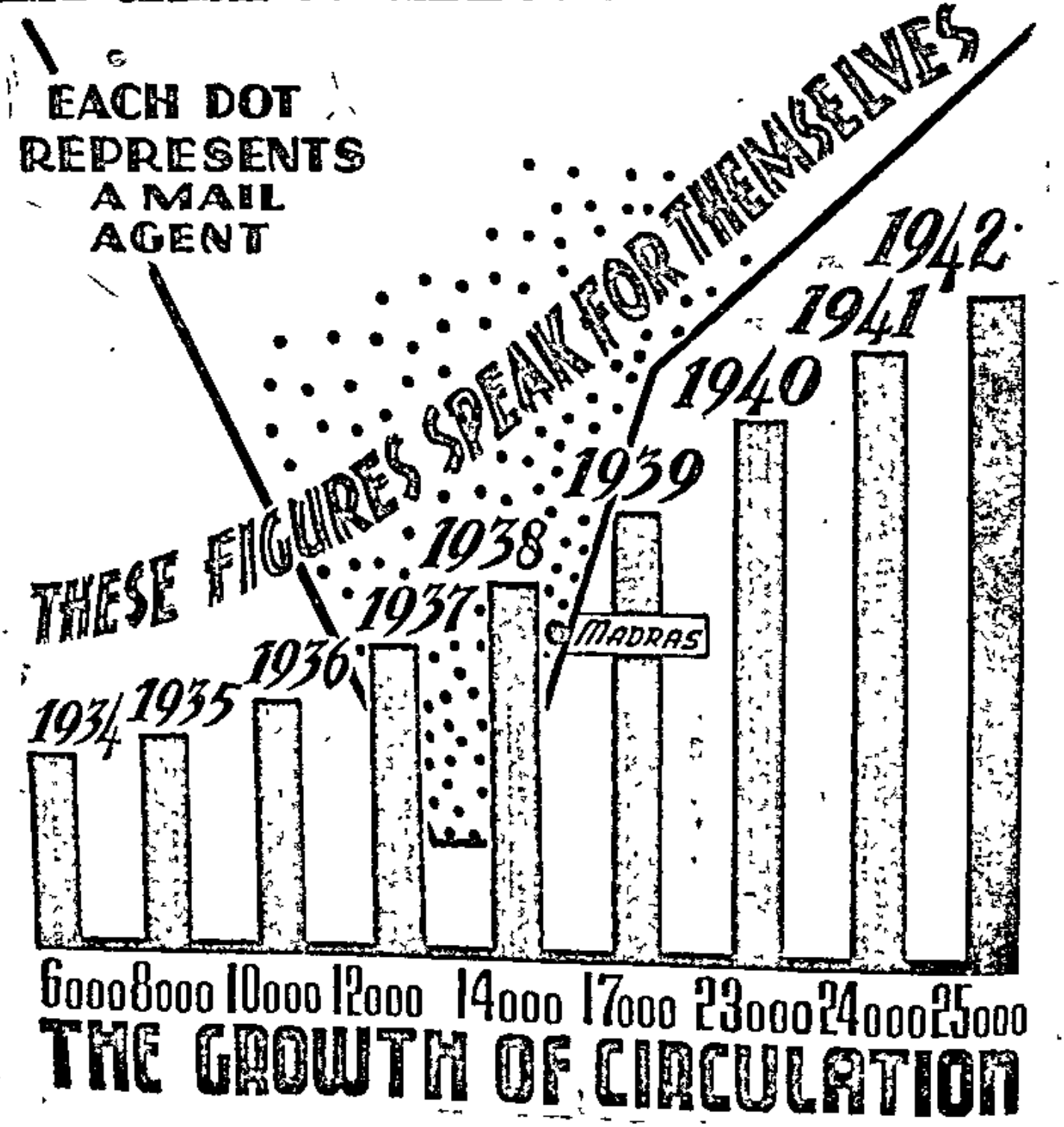
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Be very careful to keep food covered and eat only what you know to be pure. Always boil drinking-water and unpasturised milk. For additional safety any doctor will readily arrange to have you inoculated, free of cost.

In India, Cholera takes a yearly toll of 93,000. Its chief symptoms are sudden collapse accompanied by acute diarrhoea, vomiting and cramps in the legs and abdomen.

Should these symptoms become apparent in anybody you know, send for a qualified doctor with all possible speed. By so doing, you better the patient's chances of recovery and help to check the spread of the disease.

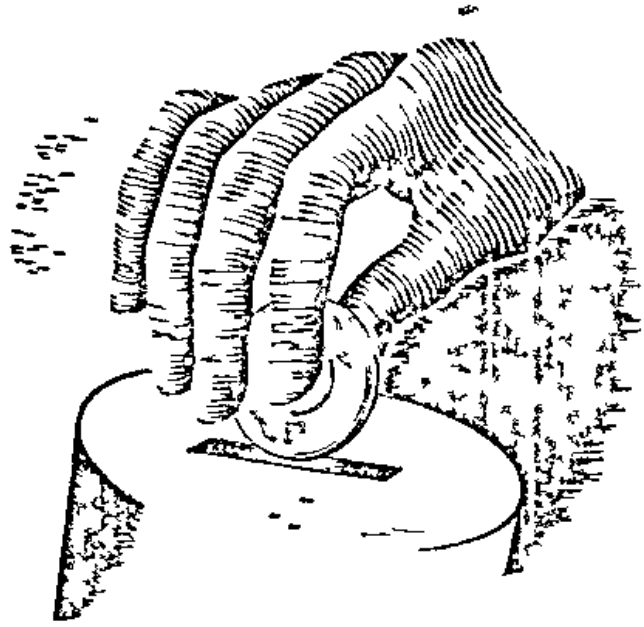
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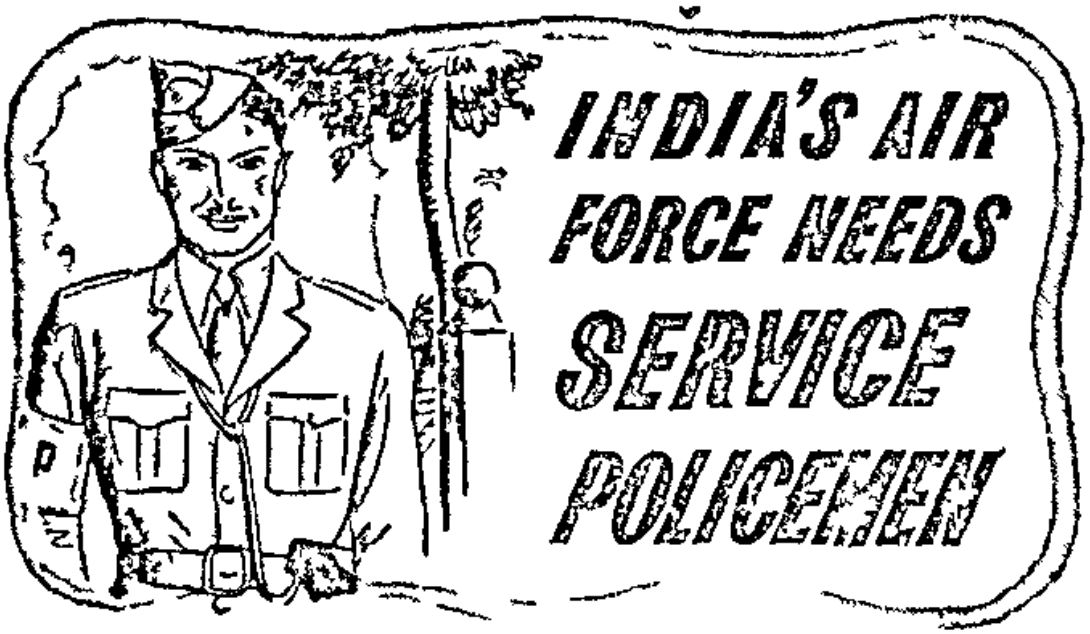
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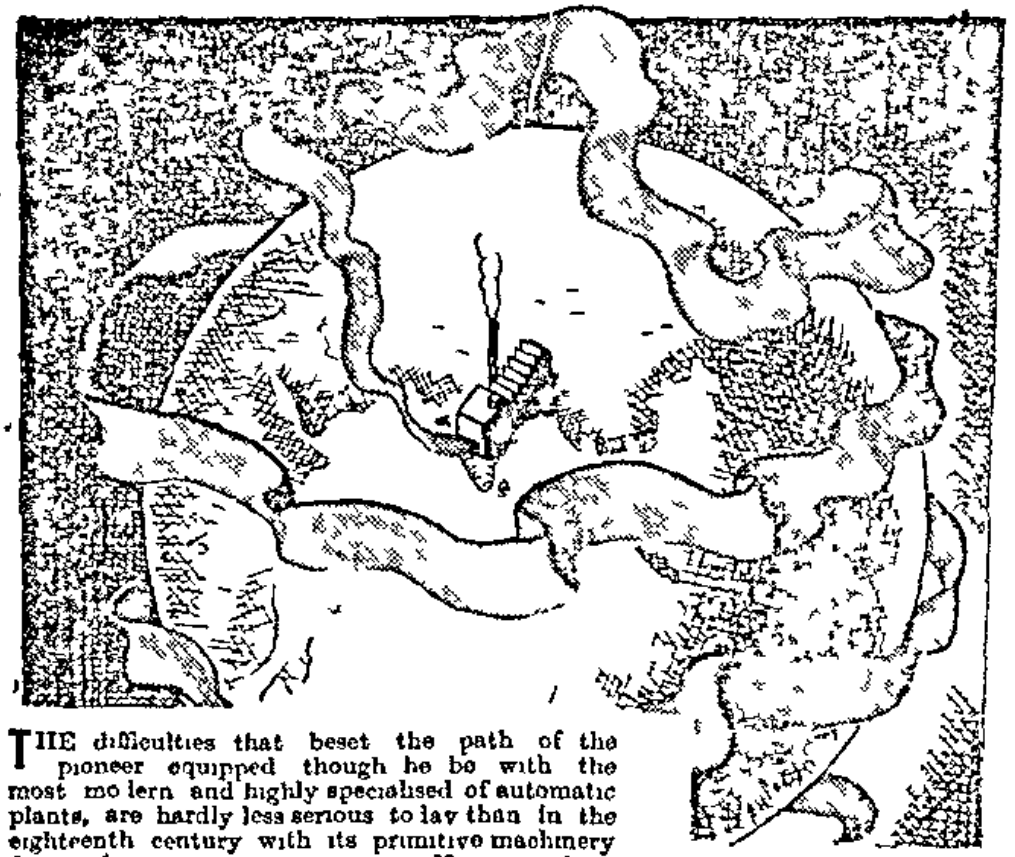
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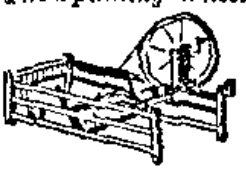
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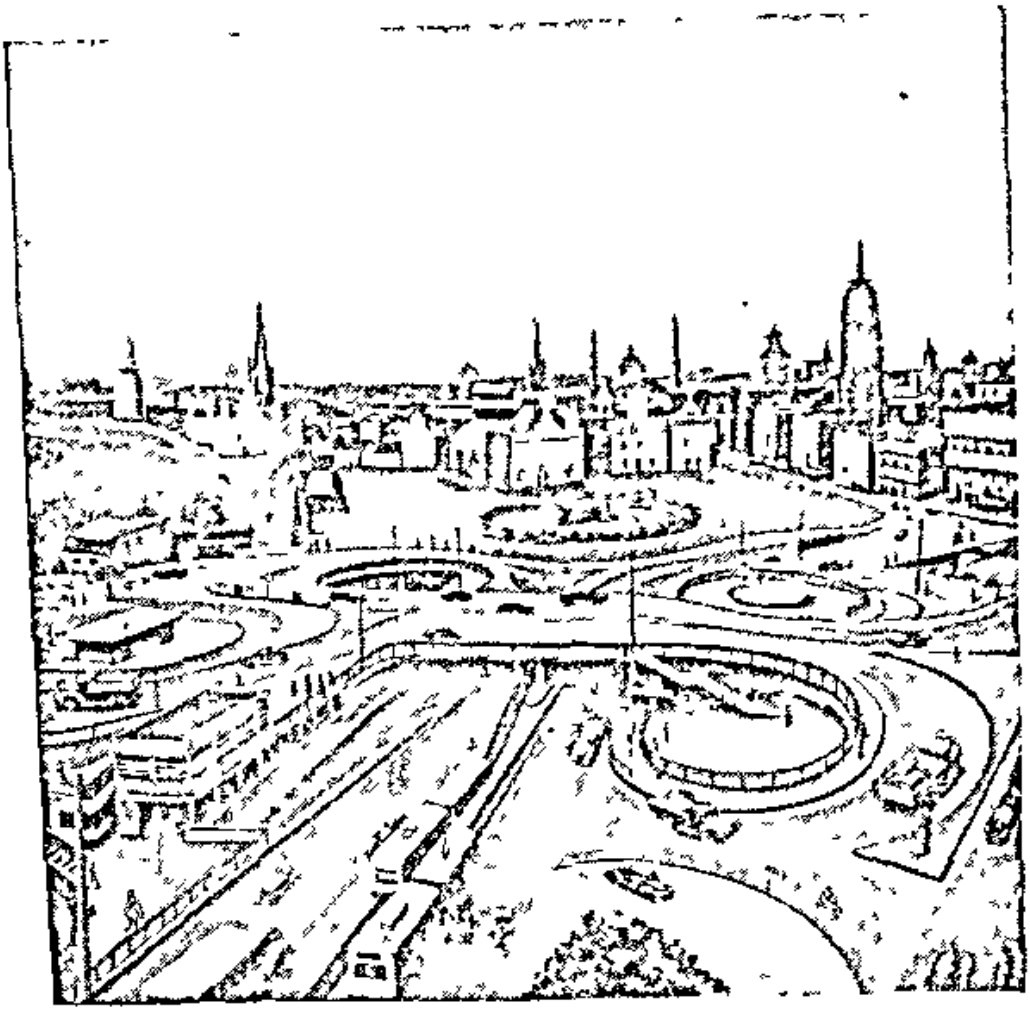
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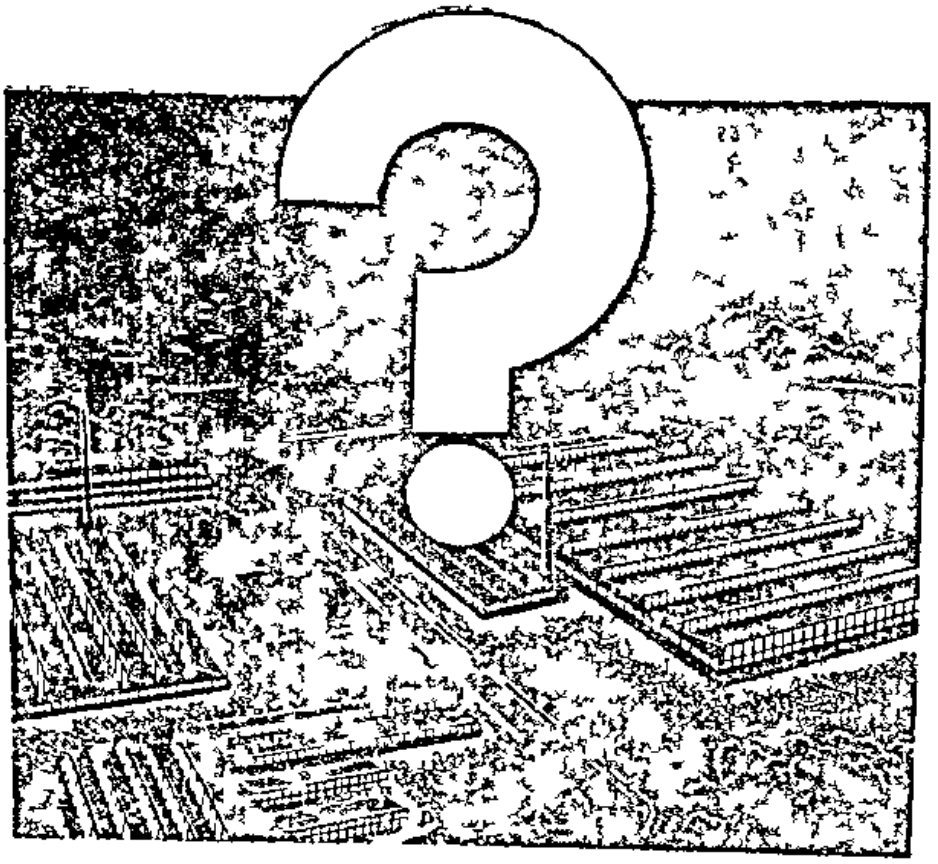
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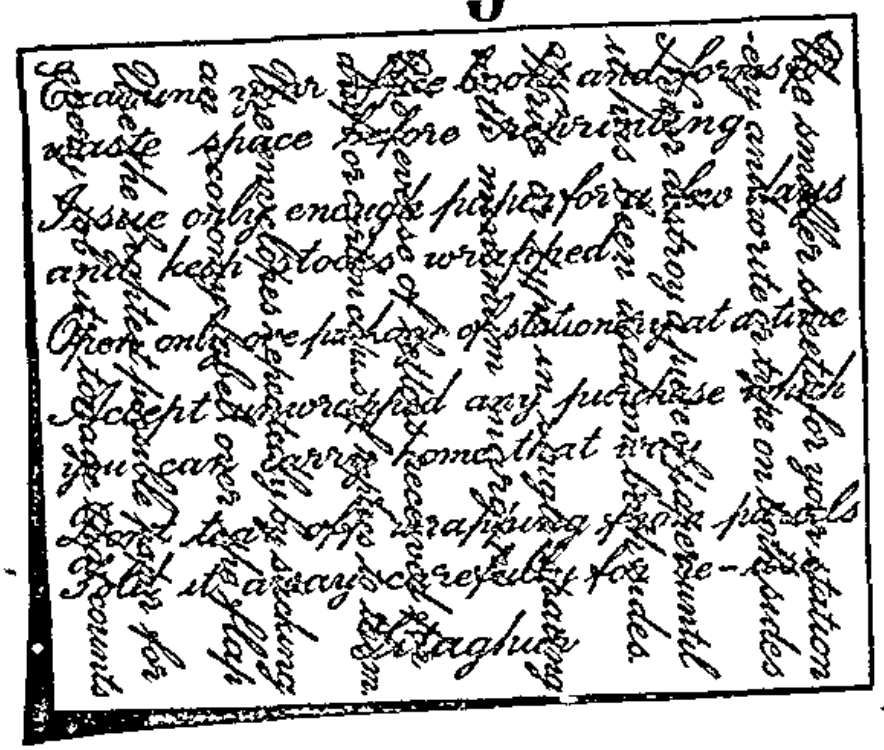
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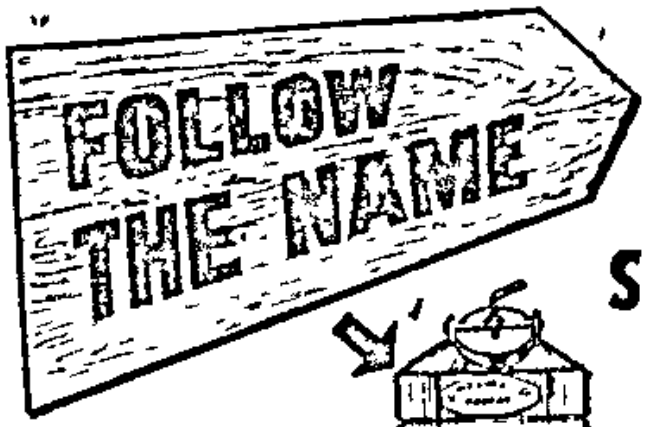
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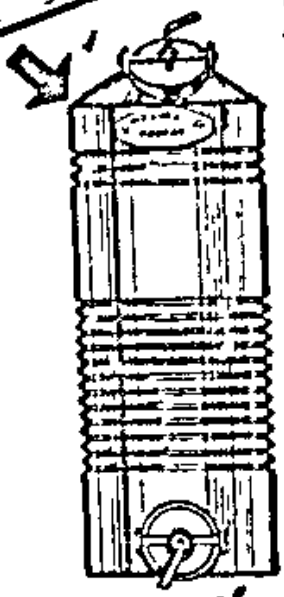
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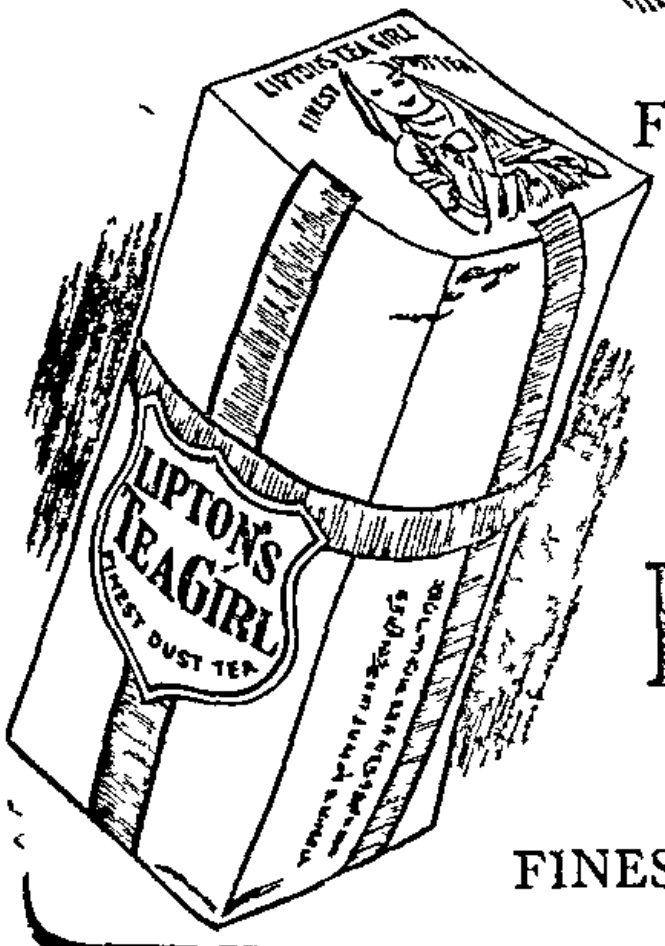
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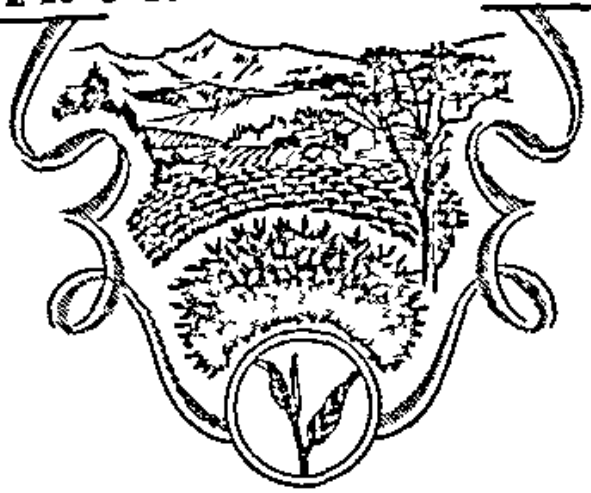
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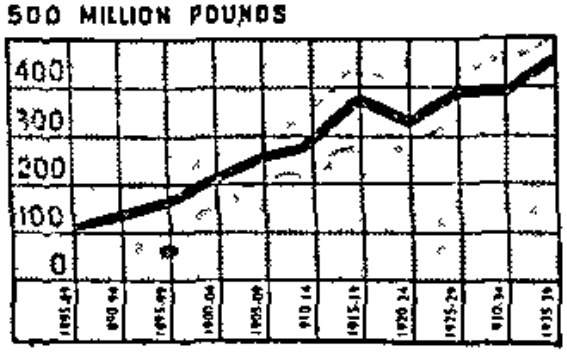
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.] NOVEMBER 1944 [No. 11.

YOUTH AND THE POST-WAR WORLD

BY SIR ALBION BANNERJIE, CSI CIE, ICS *(Retd)*

—) o (—

THE subject of post war reconstruction has become a hackneyed one so much so that it is now a part and parcel of the machinery of government already set in motion to co ordinate plans and ideas of which we have so many of late It is in fact, a huge department of government which does not administer but I believe prepares blue prints for future action In these blue prints, youth does not find a place, and my object is to stress on the necessity of paying attention to the part the youth of all countries, allied nations, including India and also Germany and her satellites, will play in the post war world

Let us clear the ground first of all and get some idea however imperfect, of post war conditions that will follow when this global war is at an end The colossal loss of life totalling to several millions will create a gap in the effective man power of nations These will include civilian men and women who have perished in air raids and also those who have been persecuted and starved to death as prisoners of war by Germany and Japan So many of the world's best scientists, inventors, technicians, artists and custodians of the highest intellectual culture amongst the promising younger generation will also be counted amongst those lost to the nations to which they belonged Those who return safely from the battle fields of land air and sea will have a different outlook on life and, others less fortunate who will or are already amongst the wounded and who will be much larger in numbers than in the last war, have also to be taken into account in all post war plans Their care will need a big national effort The number of the fighting forces when demobilised on their return will be a grave, social and economic problem and unemployment on a large scale will baffle solution Are all reconstruction plans forestalling these difficulties? There will be the housing problem in all devastated countries, replanning or rebuilding of large cities towns and industrial centres destroyed, and lastly spread of disease, starvation through want of food, suffering through want of clothing and malnutrition also, dearth of raw materials immediately required for rebuilding of industries have all to be taken into account There will be a serious fall in the standard of wages and a general

scramble for the world's raw materials and other resources still intact and untouched.

How will youth find itself in the midst of all the physical, moral and economic upset throughout the world? In theory we are hoping for the millennium to come. The Blue Prints of post-war reconstruction promise a higher standard of living and the establishment of world organisations to prevent future wars and aggression, less struggle for existence, less suffering and bitterness and strife as between nations and peoples, in fact peace and goodwill amongst mankind in general. But in dealing with all schemes, have the originators considered the psychological and moral aspect? My opinion is that they have mainly based their plans on the material and economic point of view. His Holiness the Pope in his recent broadcast said. . . "At the end of the war there remains the problem of social order which will be the object of a violent struggle". By this His Holiness the Pope evidently means a struggle between different ideologies which in his view will have to be reconciled by a nobler ideal for peace and development of relations between men, on the principles of unity and prosperity of all.

My own view is that after the war, the conditions of the world will provide a field for youthful activities on a gigantic scale. In spite of the stupendous difficulties that youth will have to face at the very start of all reconstruction programmes, I have hopes that the youth movements in the different countries which were gaining strength before the war broke out will be revived to suit altered conditions of life, and those organising it will have to secure the co-operation of the best educationists anxious to devote their energies to the framing of the education policy that will alter the very outlook of youth on life in general. Just lately, I have had some particulars sent to me by a friend in England on the founding of youth centres in that country which are intended to be a valuable addition to the present inadequate system of education. They cover the gap of 14 and 21 years and are run as a kind of clubs with official classes for teaching, also informal groups for drama, discussions, games and music. The youth movement will have to be reorganised in Germany to make the youths of that country unlearn the Nazi philosophy and the example of the Russian youths will have also to be co-ordinated with the new ideas that will spread in parts outside Russia to bring about some compromise between capitalism and communism. I personally think that every country will produce amongst the youth striking and original workers and thinkers to tackle the world problems that will face them. The world will no doubt be full of old people, and youth's contribution in the New World Order means that youth must find a proper place in any scheme of reconstruction, and that they cannot do unless they undergo a serious course of training and acquire an international outlook above the narrow national patriotism in their own country. The youth will also constitute an efficient recruiting ground for the international organisation such as an International Army, Air Force and Navy that will have to be constantly kept up in an efficient form to do its duty whenever called. This

International Police Force will naturally give the youth a trememdous outlet for the development of their youthful energies, enterprise and intelligence

With the robust optimism which is characteristic of youth, patience and forbearance and also some sacrifice, the youth will be able to solve many of the problems and give a lead to peoples struggling for a higher and a fuller life

Every scheme of post war reconstruction must take into account the nature of the governments that will be set up and the machinery thereunder This specially applies to India No scheme or plan will succeed unless the whole nation is behind it and it is co ordinated with other schemes framed by the international organisation

Youth must receive more comprehensive education, including social and political education for citizenship The equality of opportunity must be essential for youth development In the re planning of cities, young designers and architects must be allowed to submit plans In all post war schemes for which brains and inventiveness of a higher order are necessary, youth should be given an opportunity of being of service As in Russia, youths should be elevated to positions of responsibility in the judicial, executive and economic functions of the State All these will be possible only with political education Knowledge of geography and history on an international basis will be essential International mindedness should be acquired under conditions of the New World Order Many are the problems which youth will have to face, but solution will come within its own heart Grave responsibility lies on the heads of those framing the education equipment of the future for post war reconstruction

In the post war period, let us hope that old ideas of capital and labour and even Russian or rather the Soviet system of life based on communistic doctrines will undergo noticeable changes in the minds of the younger generation They are likely to view with favour the socialistic doctrines in some form or other and denounce capitalism as has been the practice in the United States of America and also in Great Britain.

Youth will be impatient and unwilling to wait for a long period of years, but demand that something should be done in the immediate future to achieve results that will benefit them both economically and in other ways In order therefore to secure the co operation of youth something has to be done for them, otherwise the part that they will play will not be helpful but obstructive When it is helpful they will form a strong bulwark against the disruptive forces of society and counteract those tendencies that are rigid and conservative amongst the elder politicians who will naturally have the temptation to cling to their original faiths and in other words, there will be a great clash between youth and age more than ever before in the history of mankind The chances are that youth will win in the battle, and to conserve, utilise and take advantage of all the youthful forces of all the different nations, the elder politicians have a great task before them for they have to

look far ahead and sacrifice many of their own cherished principles in the interests of the national government of each country which cannot be expected to function without the wholehearted co-operation of youth in every sphere of national activity.

Now let us for a moment consider what may be the part youth will take in the post-war reconstruction Their ambition will be very much higher after the war is over. Once you have framed your post-war reconstruction schemes on the principles explained above, youth will be a very strong co-operative influence to bring about a new era and a new outlook amongst all the nations There is also another important duty towards youth which the powers that will wield their authority over the whole nation must discharge, *viz*, bring about a spirit of harmony and co-operation under some scheme of international peace organisations in, which the youth should be asked to play a leading part. Peace movements that have been started have not succeeded in preventing wars, and is an international organisation bringing together different nations to establish an International Army, Air Force or an International Navy will not succeed unless youth is brought up with the conviction that their participation will not result in an actual struggle for advantage as between one nation against the other, but will bring about harmony and prevent rivalry, exploitation and jealousy. Youth must be convinced that any organisation that is set up is efficacious and also fruitful of good results, otherwise they will not be sympathetic co-operators but secretly grow into actual hostile agents to thwart the very foundation of such peace organisations of the future.

The future of the East and West in the New World Order is sure to take a prominent place in the youthful mind after the war. It will be dangerous to make any prognostications as to the political education that will be given to the youths of the West as differentiated from the youths of the East, *including India*, but it is obvious that the Eastern hemisphere will become a new and weighty element in establishing a new equilibrium in the demand for world peace. The youth of India will have put before them the various philosophies of Nazism, Communism and many other isms, some of which stand in the name of democracy. The youth of the West will be greatly influenced by the communistic doctrines of Russia, however much they may be altered to suit post-war conditions, but if to quote H. G. Wells' book THE NEW WORLD ORDER the establishment of a progressive world socialism in which the freedoms, health and happiness of every individual is protected by a universal law based on a re-declaration of the rights of man providing for the utmost liberty of thought, criticism and suggestion is the ideal to be kept in view in all plans of post-war reconstruction, there is no doubt that the youth of all countries come in a line to work out the youth movement adapting it to local circumstances and conditions of each nation.

The education problem in the post-war period is of the utmost importance for it primarily affects youth Education will continue to have in a larger measure an economic motive and for that reason alone

all university education has to be reorganised and while academic standards must be kept up to the highest and research encouraged by larger grants from the State exchequer in every country for the benefit of science which in its turn will help the industrial development, the education of youth should give a stimulus to youthful energies being directed towards a positive aim of the human mind that will lead to a higher culture and a higher civilisation that has yet been achieved

I have not specifically referred as yet to the youth of India So far, India has not experienced the severe war conditions and hardships and horrors in the war zone of Europe and other countries even China such as loss of life, property and general dislocation of economic conditions, except only in part Youth has been mobilised for war service but in effect youth has been able to continue its studies in schools and universities and in fact, obtained greater opportunities of showing merit and capacity in various spheres specially in war industries—no doubt a great promise for the future By comparison the youth of India is superior in intelligence, adaptability and quickness to learn and has proved what it can achieve if given the chance Training centres under the Labour Department of the Government of India and the Bevin scheme for technicians have opened up, and if further extended will provide further avenues for youthful employment in industrial development for the future But amidst these hopeful features the system of literary education and conferring degrees has produced unemployment Large increase in the population of the country has made the problem of village primary and mass education a colossal one, still it remains unsolved Technical trainning centres are few Scientific research is limited and expenditure thereon is but a drop in the ocean and in the country's finance To help Indian youth in taking a proper place in the post war world, the whole educational system of India has to be reorganissed Youth movement should be established in every town and village to supplement the work of educational institutions Physical culture, and medical care of the students are all to form part in a big national scheme Greater opportunities should be afforded by the State for technical education, scientific research and foreign travel providing also for exchange of students all over the world Then only will the youth of India rise to the height unprecedented in India's national progress and help to make this country a living example of what youth can achieve in the new social order that is to come

REGIONAL UNIVERSITIES

By Diwan Bahadur K M. Jhaveri, M.A., LL.B.

DURING the last few months, the Syndicate of the Bombay University has received nearly seventy-five applications for affiliations of new colleges, for teaching Arts, Science and Commerce subjects. Last year, there was such an increase and overcrowding in the number of candidates seeking admission to the colleges, that it almost became a scandal, and the Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University was hard put to it to secure admission for those left out, a pretty large number. The reason for this unprecedented state of things was that the existing number of colleges, even after straining their resources in Teaching staff and Laboratory space and material, were unable to respond to the heavy call. The new colleges, if affiliated, will certainly ease the situation next academic year, *i.e.*, from June 1945. But even then, the difficulty with regard to the vocational colleges,—Medical, Engineering, Agricultural and Technological —would continue to exist, and as they are, in their nature, costly institutions to start and maintain, no one, not even Government, comes forward to provide them; and year after year candidates go away disappointed.

The University of Bombay at present caters to the higher educational needs of the whole of the Province, including Sind. Twenty years ago, it was allright But during the subsequent period, as the number of students continued to increase and the number of colleges remained mostly the same, the *strain began to be felt*; and during the current year, it became so heavy as to disrupt the whole situation. The only solution of the problem, therefore now seems to be the starting of Regiona Universities. The Province of Sind i trying to get its own University, and woul thus afford some relief to the paren University whose main handicap to-day i its administrative unwieldiness. Th Province proper is divided into thre divisions, Northern, Central and Southern for administrative purposes. It incidentall coincides with linguistic divisions also Gujerati, Marathi and Kanarese. All th three divisions are swarming with students and the most natural thing to do, therefore would be to have a Regional Universit for each Linguistic division. Maharashtra in fact, has started on the path, and Committee, appointed specially for th purpose by the Bombay Government, hav reported favourably to them. Gujerat ha stirred itself into life and become voca and is discussing the problem academicall and financially before putting forward definite demand. The Southern Division though not so much in the lime-light, i also contemplating to make out a case i its favour The South and the East an the North of India, Madras, Andhra Mysore, Travancore, Calcutta, Patna an Dacca, Delhi, Agra, Aligarh and th Punjab, Nagpur and the Osmania Univer sities are precedents, if any precedent were required, in favour of starting Regional Universities, in addition to th three primary and Presidency Universitie of Bengal, Bombay and Madras. Th demand for such centres of learning is th natural consequence, inevitable result o the march of time, in matters educationa *and non-educational*. One expects, *therefore* that very soon Bombay Province will hav its Regional Universities. The sooner, th better.

THE HARIJAN PROBLEM

BY MUNSHI ISWAR SARAN,

President, Harijan Sewak Sangh, Allahabad

AN ex Viceroy of India told a friend of mine that even those who disagreed with Mahatma Gandhi's politics would be forced to admit that he was destined to go down in history as one of the greatest liberators of mankind The awakening among the depressed classes is mainly due to his self less labour It is he who has convinced thoughtful caste Hindus that the good name and progress of Hinduism and India depend on the betterment of the condition of Harijans It is indisputable that the attitude of an increasing number of caste Hindus towards Harijans is undergoing a radical change, they are dropping their superiority complex and Harijans are getting rid of their inferiority complex The leavening process which has begun, I am confident, will, sooner than many people dare imagine, leaven the whole lump People in different parts of the country are devoting themselves to the service of Harijans fully determined that this problem should be satisfactorily solved as speedily as possible They do not seek to patronise Harijans but desire to atone for the past sins of caste Hindus They feel that Hindus have been guilty of a great wrong in imposing absurd and cruel restrictions on Harijans

Due to Mahatma Gandhi's inspiration a branch of the Harijan Sewak Sangh has been established at Allahabad Its home is called Harijan Ashram A description of this institution, I venture to hope, may be of interest to fellow workers all over the country May it be hoped that it may serve as a model for others to follow and imitate?

The Ashram is established on a site measuring 20 acres which has been given by the United Provinces Government on a nominal rate of rent of one rupee per acre per year Thanks to His Excellency Sir Maurice Hallet, the Defence Department of the Government of India have given us over 32 acres of cantonment land which is contiguous to the Ashram site Some more land has been given to us by the United Provinces Government The Ashram is within the municipal bounds of Allahabad and is situated in what might be called the suburb of Allahabad It is not far from the Prayag railway station On this site we have got a hospital the gift of the Rt Hon'ble Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, a vocational school the gift of Sir Padampat Singhania of Cawnpore, a girls' hostel the gift of Col Sirdar M N Shitole, a premier Sirdar of the Gwalior State, a workshop the cost of whose construction has been borne by us and the United Provinces Government, a boys' hostel, a building which contains our office and guest rooms, a tannery and some other buildings

Uptill now we have not been able to establish a regular hospital but we hope that in the near future it will be our good fortune to make satisfactory arrangement for indoor patients We distribute medicine gratis to all those, irrespective of their caste or faith, who come to us Our average attendance at this dispensary is about a hundred per day

In our hostels we have Harijan children whom we train and educate free of cost We pay for their food, clothes and lodging

THE RESURRECTION OF FRANCE

BY MR M K PANDAY

IN the June of the year 1940, the news flashed like a crash of thunder that France has collapsed! It was too stunning too heart creaking to believe, but the fact was there The Swastika had swallowed the Tri colour! To one who has been to that lovely land of arts and culture, dance and music, grapes and Provencal songs the news was something like a terrible nightmare "Oh, could it be ever possible! Damn it."

Everything is possible! A nation that does not keep the eternal vigilance loses liberty It has happened in case of Greece, Rome and the Caliphites It has also happened again and again in India and China Victories and the expansion of the domain bring about a spirit of complacency, which produces stagnation *i e* decay The fact is too blatantly true to require any elucidation The contrast between the early Greek kings and their later successors, the great Cæsars and the Italian kings, the early Muslim conqueror and their later followers, the first Aryans and the later Guptas, is too obvious The former had the restless zeal and unshakable faith in fanatical courage while the latter were without any guts—steeped in luxuries and dissipations of all sorts

So, is the case with France, I thought It is nothing more than History repeating itself!

But, is France completely eclipsed—is her soul also eclipsed? France, the seat of Western culture, the home of revolutions, the mother of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity, the most cosmopolitan and the least colour prejudiced of all the European countries, is France Dead? No, commonsense refuses to admit it and the whole soul rebels against the very idea But the ugly fact stood before me grinning and blinking like a little devil The capitulation was signed, the Nazis over ran the country The poor workers were forcibly departed into Germany to work in the war factories—the whole country was subjected to the most ruthless pillage Ordinances and martial laws were promulgated, the hostages were shot down and every conceivable means was used to cow down the people A reign of terror more horrible than that of Tamerlane was established right—in the very heart of Europe—the nerve centre of all the progressive thoughts and the home of all that is grand and sublime!

Everybody declared that France has gone to the wall for good She will no more be able to raise her head Everybody, including the Field Marshal Smuts, said that France will never rise She is finished once and for ever!

The history of France for the last four years would be written in blood and tears We do not find another instance of ruthless exploitation to match the acts of shame perpetrated by the Nazi hordes Men hounded by the Gestapo, women raped by the Nazi brutes, children dying of hunger, the brazen faced politicians like Laval and Petain playing the second fiddle to the Nazi overlords, the whole countryside laid waste, the art treasures looted, the cellars sacked, the precincts of the Notre Dame polluted, the Tri colour, trampled, the Marseillaise banned, the

Acadameie Francais castigated, the newspapers muzzled and the whole population terrorised! A complete denial of freedom in the land of Liberty, Barbarity instead of fraternity and arrogant superiority instead of equality! A complete reversal of state of things and the most damnable topsy-turvydom!

Just as renaissance precedes a reformation similarly a spirit of decadence precedes the actual decay A nation that does not constantly try to live upto a progressive ideology is sure to meet a reversal. A knock-out blow is bound to send such a nation reeling to kiss the dust. And a recovery is possible only when there is an inexhaustible fund of innate spiritual strength in that nation. It is due to this great strength, call it life-force, if you like, that a nation rises like Phoenix from the ashes. The greater the persecution the grimmer the resolve, the more the humiliations, the more bitter the spirit of vengeance! The eclipse is never a total eclipse, nor is physical defeat a spiritual decline!

> Nor stony tower, nor walls of beaten brass,
> Nor airless dungeon, nor strong links of iron,
> Can be retentive to the strength of spirit

For four years France continued to be the "Airless dungeon", but her spiritual strength continued to augment, the inner urge to be free began to be more powerful, the underground preparations went on ceaselessly and the resolve to free the country from the brutes also grew more grim and inexorable. It was the most agonising *time in the history of the French* people. It was the moment of travail, of terrible ordeals and sufferings.

* * *

But, to-day France has resurrected! Those who declared four years ago that France was finished, have proved to be false prophets. The period of night is over and the golden morn flatters the top of yonder hills. The people of France true to their tradition have themselves liberated their country. The Hitlerite hordes have withdrawn and are withdrawing from the French soil, the Swastika is crushed underfoot, the Tri-colour flies gaily, the Gestapo is hounded out, the precincts of Notre Dame is cleared up, the liberty is established instead of slavery, fraternity in place of barbarity and equality instead of superiority. The newspaper has resumed its publication, the Marseillaise sung aloud from one end of the country to the other and France is once more LA FRANCE—a sadder and a wiser France.

The future of France will be determined to very great extent by the course of action, her present leaders will choose for her. The choice before her is clear and unmistakable Whether she will once more align herself with the former reactionary Ally, who did not hesitate to leave her in the lurch or whether she will restore the *status quo* or strike out a radical course. The one means clutching at the empires and following the time-worn impertalistic policy and the other means a dynamic philosophy perfectly in harmony with her spirit. The one will mean death even as the other will mean a vigorous life! Perhaps it is too early to forecast now. But, one thing is absolutely certain that the old and obscurantist ideologies will have no place in the "NEW WORLD ORDER" whatever it may be!

"All our yesterdays have lighted fools to dusty death". Those who think that they can talk in the same old accent, live in the fools' paradise It is impossible to bring the mummies back to life in France as well as in India In spite of the jabbering of the Pessimists and the defeatists ', TO MORROW is certainly going to be ours

At present there is a welter of chaos and confusion Fascism is knocked down Nazism is badly cornered and driven at the bay, the Russian Bear has already weeded out his country of all the Nazis the Balkans have thought it more worthwhile to turn to the east than to the west The Japanese ambassador is making feverish attempt to bring about a rapproachment between Germany and Russia Once more we seem to live in a temporary doldrum! Once more the International world resembles an exciting chess board But one thing is certain that the dreams of world wide lebensraum and the victorian laisse fairism are completely shattered!

It is absurd to think that France will follow the old reactionary policy after going through such ordeals It is absolutely inconceivable that she will refuse to learn lessons from the debacle that overtook her

But, just now there are ominous signs in France The cafe politics seem to be asserting themselves once more General de Gaulle has made no secret of his intentions concerning the empire But in spite of it, General de Gaulle is bent upon carving out a new France out of the welter and chaos of the moment The General is at work. There is going to be the trial of some of the great former ministers and the prime ministers a trial, which, perhaps is the greatest in French History since the year 1789! Things are in a great flux now and the more one thinks, the worse grows the confusion! It is impossible to predict what shape the things will ultimately take

But, the question before France presents itself with all the remorselessness of the hour whether she is going to maintain the *status quo*, as it existed before the war, or whether she will adopt a forceful and dynamic philosophy—the sort of philosophy which is essentially in keeping with France's genius noted for progressive radicalism The question presents itself inexorably and has to be answered ruthlessly! If de Gaulle unfortunately proves to be another Clemenceau and restores the *status quo*, would it be worth the agonies of travail that France has suffered during past years? Would it mean anything to the millions of Frenchmen, members of the F F I who made such glorious sacrifices for their 'Patrie'? Would it not mean a mere repetition of Daldiere Renaud, Petain, Laval, Bannet and hosts of other renegades? Would she give away her soul to a decadent philosophy and be a partner in the ruthless exploitation of the world with her Ally across the Channel or her jilted lover across the Atlantic? Would she continue as the chambermaid (femme de chambre) of the haughty Britania? Would she lose her soul and gain the whole world? Would she completely forget that there was once a Rousseau, a Voltaire, a Robespierre, a Danton, a Descartes and hosts of others who have kept her name alive even in the remote corners of the world? Would she exchange the

dynamic for the decadent? The gold for the dross?

These are some of the questions which forcibly intrude upon the mind of one who has something to do with French History and Literature. The question has to be answered by her and the decision has to be made ruthlessly but still coolly, logically but still practically I am one of those who believe that the soul of France is immortal and that her soul-force is bound to assert itself powerfully if her present leaders try to keep her decadent, as she was after the first Great World War.

France has got through the Baptism of Fire! What she needs is a Baptism of Spirit just as India needs both the baptism at once in order to bring about the Catharsis of age-old stupidities and follies. We who believe in the great destiny of France and even the greater destiny of our fatherland will cry the hallelujahs if she is once more clad in her resplendent glory of 1789.

While I am writing these lines, I can very well fancy the river Seine gliding at its own sweet will, the little barges silhouetted in the half-lit morning finlight, the tall green fir trees of the boulevard becoming more clearly defined against the faint background, the Rue Montparnasse hushed in solemn quiet, a faint murmur from the road to the Notre Dame and something like an incense hanging upon the air!

Lo and behold, it is La France! The France that has come to life and the France that was no more!

VIVE LA FRANCE!!!

Kalhana, the Poet-Historian of Kashmir

BY PROF. S. N. DHAR, M A, B T, LL B.

RAJATARANGINI, the famous saga of the Kings of Kashmir, was written 800 years ago by the poet-historian, Kalhana. Little is known about the life of Kalhana beyond his own confessions in his history, which he wrote between the years 1148 49 A.D He came from a celebrated family of Brahmans His father, Canpaka, was a minister. Untoward political circumstances determined an author's career for Kalhana. He cultivated a thorough-going acquaintance with all the past chronicles of Kashmir and knew at first hand the political *and social developments of his time.*

Kalhana's erudition is estimated from the fact that the story of Rajatarangini or "The River of Kings" covers thousands of years from earliest times down to his own day. It is written in Sanskrit, "the language of the gods". Kalhana summarily deals with fifty-two pre-historic kings. According to Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, its early part, is "brief and vague". The later periods, as they approach Kalhana's own times, are detailed, clear and forceful. Rajatarangini is not merely military or palace history, not only the chronicle of autocratic monarchs but it also contains valuable political, social and other information.

Kalhana is pre-eminently a Kavi, a seer poet. He looked upon himself as a poet first and chronicler afterwards. The late R. S. Pandit compared him to Aeschylus Homer "as a poet of veracity and

universality' His poet's love of the Arcadian valley of Kashmir, abounding in nature's mysterious charms, is revealed in many a passage of Rajatarangini where his florid style reaches the heights of the grand style In the manner of Kalidasa he frequently changes the metre to compliment the theme Figures of speech come easily to Kalhana the master artist His grace of humour and occasional sarcasm enliven his couplets which flow smooth and deep even as the Jhelum The style of his poem have won appreciation from eminent Sanskrit scholars and critics

On the historian Kalhana says That man of merit alone deserves praise whose language like that of a judge, on recounting the events of the past has discarded bias as well as prejudice' Kalhana certainly lives up to his standard of the art of the historian His standpoint as the historian is that of an independent and dispassionate observer Non Kashmiris like Bengalis who did great things in Kashmir were warmly applauded by him He extended the same tolerance to idol breakers iconoclasts and vandals that he meted out to temple and city builders and great patrons of art and learning He wrote history with the professed aim that it might help people to live and to understand life He is no sycophantic court poet who pays extravagant tribute to kings He describes royal love affairs, court intrigues and military campaigns with the same veracity with which he gives accounts of famines floods and fires He ascribes no dates to the kings of the pre historic period of Kashmir He gives dates after 813 A D when he is sure about their authenticity Though he lived in times when Rights of Man were yet undefined, he boldly expressed his sympathy with the down trodden Kashmiri masses who lived the pitiable lives of serfs He gives interesting descriptions of their hunger strikes which formed the only political weapon that they could use against their feudal and autocratic oppressors Tragic episodes like Jaipada's sad end and the Sati of Suryamati are relieved by narration of light tales in truly Shakespearean manner The diversity of dialogues adds to the value of his chronicle

Kalhana s saga portrays the ancient times of Kashmir, the clash and the consequent intermixture of various cultures Kalhana acquaints us with many ancient superstitions, customs and traditions, some of which have persisted to the present day He gives brilliant pen portraits of great men like Suyya the engineer, King Meghavahana the philosopher Lalitaditya the conqueror Not only is Rajatarangini a great history, it is also great as a work of art His artistic sense was admirably matched by his moral excellence which permeates his character portraits and defines his ethical attitude to life

As a man Kalhana presents the curious combination of poet and historian on the one hand and a Brahman and rationalist on the other He was a Brahman but he had Buddhist leanings though he lived in a time when Buddhism had been completely replaced by Hinduism Perhaps his interest in Buddhism accounts for his determinism and didacticism The cult of Saivism then prevalent in Kashmir, influenced him strongly, so that each one of the eight cantos of his poem begins with a Saivistic

quotation that emphasises the transitoriness of life and the triumph of Death over it. Thus the dominant "Rasa" (sentiment) of his chronicle is "santarasa," the sentiment of resignation Kalhana's numerous references to ancient Indian classical mythology reveal his broad learning. He was well informed in history, geography, literature, economics and prosody. He found space to write about early Sanskrit poets and authors which helps the language scholar to decide their dates of life and composition.

Kalhana ranks among the first-rank Indian Sanskrit historians of the Middle Ages. He even compares favourably with many of the well-known medieval chroniclers of the world. Kalhana, the great Kashmiri poet-historian, has saved the history and ancient culture of Kashmir from oblivion.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF STUDENTS' STRIKES

BY J M. D'SOUZA, B A, L T.C L, S T.C.

WE shall here deal with Students' Strikes merely as internal troubles having nothing to do with 'politics'. Strikes of this type have, of late, become very frequent in this country, and the germ seems to be spreading very fast To start with, the students of the Elphinstone College, Bombay, went on strike as a protest against the rustication of three of their fellow students who were alleged to have disobeyed the Principal's order. Soon after, we read of a strike among school students in Dacca. These became unruly because they were forced to appear for an examination with their own paper despite grave paper shortage in the market. The students of the Bombay College only struck their work, but those of Dacca struck their master who was removed to his residence in a serious condition. Very recently, some 850 students of the S. H L. College of Commerce, Ahmedabad, were reported to be on strike in sympathy with two of their companions who were disallowed by the authorities to sit for the final University examination. We do not mean to hold a brief for the authorities concerned nor do we maintain that the students were wholly in the wrong. All that we wish to say is that these strikes are fast developing into a contagious and deadly disease. Something has to be done to arrest their progress. Delay may prove dangerous.

Coming to the ethics of 'strikes', we face the questions: Are these strikes justifiable? Are the students right? If they are doing the right thing, are they not doing it in the wrong way, in the wrong place, and at the wrong time? Don't these strikes amount to subversion of authority? Can our students come forward to disobey and learn to obey at the same time? As leaders of to-morrow, can they be trained to command when they are not prepared to obey? If the students have the right to protest, have not the authorities the right to command? Can the clash of the two be regarded as progressive? Even if protest as 'the end' be allowed, are strikes justifiable as 'the means'?

Strikes came into fashion as a clash between 'capital' and 'labour' in the present age of steam driven machinery and large factories These factories are both their origin and justification Strikes should have no room in our schools or colleges As students, we do not undertake to fly The school or college is a place where we find the wings and prepare for the flight Woe be to all the education and the race that is to benefit thereby if this preparation is marred by riotous activities! A citizen* (or a soldier) is not a pair of shoes made to order His preparation has to be long and intensive It must be backed and boned by love of duty and singleness of purpose—of determination to learn and to learn long and well all that is wise and sound And wisdom, as admirably said by Wordsworth, is oft times nearer when we stoop than when we soar

In student life there should be no deviation from the path of duty and obedience to authority Before† being a captain one must be a lieutenant I think it is Cicero who said "The man who commands effectively must have obeyed others in the past, and the man who *obeys dutifully* is worthy of being one day a commander" The students' duty is to learn and not to teach the authorities their business Emerson rightly stretches the point when he says that the right performance of this hour's duties will be the best preparation for the hours or ages that follow it "To do the right thing', says another writer, "it is often necessary to be out of joint with the times and with public opinion" This will prove a sound retort to those of our politicians who wish us to understand the so called *psychology of students' revolts* There may be a reason why the students behave in this manner It is true that we have at this moment reached a crucial point in the political history of our country We grant that our present educational system is unsound But we simply ignore these factors when we come to face the stern truth that 'politics' is not the business of our student population

We need not go far for examples Mahatma Gandhi is well known as the Prince of Revolutionaries But what was his life at school? In his 'My Early Life' we read 'I had not any high regard for my ability But I very jealously guarded my character. The last little blemish drew tears from my eyes I did not so much mind the punishment, as the fact that it was considered my desert I was by nature blind to the faults of elders Later I came to know of many other failings of this teacher, but my regard for him remained the same For I had learnt to carry out the orders, of elders, not to scan their actions The Mahatma's school life is a shining pattern for our youths Intelligence may lie in seeing the faults of others but the beauty will always lie in correcting them in ourselves Even as a political leader, what is Mahatmaji admired for? Love of peace and humanity, *sweet reasonableness*, his faith in the power of ideals, his creed of Non violence, and belief in the strength of will And what is his advice to students? He grants‡ them freedom of expression and of opinion, but *not of action while they are studying*

Let us now turn to Rabindranath Tagore, 'the Sentinel of the East' It is well known

*A T Quiller Couch 'Roll Call of Honour' p. 159
†Quiller Couch, 'Roll Call of Honour' page 188
‡Gandhi Series. by Hingorani, Volume I, page 11

that the school system irked him. In his "Reminiscences" and other works we read: "It (school) kept me strictly separate from all that filled my life, and I felt as unhappy there as a rabbit confined in a biological institute. Being a truant by nature, I had always refused to attend my classes". But never, indeed never, do we read of him as a votary of strikes and mob-violence in his student days. On the contrary, he had the deepest reverence for his masters. Referring to Father De-Pereneda, he says: "I felt in him the presence of a great soul and even to-day the recollection of it seems to give me a passport into the silent seclusion of the Temple of God." Here is Tagore's message:—

> Be not ashamed my brothers to stand
> Before the proud and the powerful
> With your white robe of *simpleness*
> Let your crown be of *humility*
> Your freedom, the *freedom of the soul*.

Napoleon held that discipline amounts to seventy-five per cent. of all the elements that go to make up success in battle. This statement applies with greater emphasis to the battle of life. Discipline, in fact, is another word for education itself—the development of body, mind and spirit—the discipline of thought, word and deed We may contend that discipline implies freedom. But freedom is "not the right to do as you please but the *liberty to do as you ought*". And, this learning of what one ought to do—the great unwritten Law of Behaviour—can thrive only in an atmosphere of quiet, unquestioning obedience. It may be argued that true discipline is not "outward compulsion". We grant that it is "inward impulsion". But this view does not brush aside the help and guidance of youth by the adult section of the community. Inward impulsion, moreover, implies meditation* or introspection and self control leading to self-respect and self-reliance.

We admit that this is an age of democracy. But the true spirit of democracy seems to be little understood and less practised. According to a recent utterance of Sir S. Radhakrishnan, "democracy is not so much the result as the method. It is the method of persuasion, of discussion, of negotiation of give and take. It is the method by which *peaceful non-violent changes are brought about.* If you get angry and lose your temper, you lose the democratic habit". Even if we take for granted, that the student strikers are right, are they not doing the right thing at the wrong time, in the wrong place, and in the wrong way? Are they not placing the cart before the horse? And again, is it enough that actions are right? Must they not also be pleasant?

Loose home discipline is largely responsible for the disorderly scenes in schools and colleges "You strike my work", said a learned gentleman once to his stubborn servant, "and I strike your food". The remark offers much food for thought to our parents and guardians. Parents and teachers will have to put their heads together, after all, and prescribe the necessary antidotes and deterrents to curb the existing spirit of revolt among our students. Herr Hitler, himself an arch rebel, says somewhere in his 'Mein Kamf' that no one should enter politics before the age of 30 This remark is significant specially to those of our students who seem to consider themselves wise enough at 13. Educational institutions are temples of learning. Disorder and discord should have no place whatsoever within their walls. Rather, they should throw their portals open to music† and harmony. Students should strive after the noble motto‡ of Louis Pasteur—'laboremus'—'Let Us Work'. They should prepare themselves for 'sweet reasonableness', delicate diplomacy, and pleasant action They should learn how *to stoop to conquer.*

* A Discipline for Non-violence, by R. B. Gregg, page 14.

† My Remarks on Moral Value of Music, 'Modern Review,' October 1938, page 473.

‡ Quiller Couch, 'Roll Call of Honour', page 180.

THREAT TO THE ARECA INDUSTRY

By Mr A GOIYA

THE war has brought into the limelight a tree so useful to man in India and Ceylon—the homely slender arecanut (areca catechu, Linn) What traveller in Hindustan or Lanka has not seen the stately groves and the pluckers deftly swinging a tree to and fro in order to move on to the next palm? It is a dangerous bit of work, yet so skilful are the pickers that accidents seldom if ever, occur When the bunch has been picked it is either thrown to the ground or sent down along a rope to the receiver at the other end who often is the picker s wife For the areca trade is purely a family concern—a typical rural industry The war has, however, threatened all these rustic scenes It will not be far wrong to state that the ruin of the areca industry is imminent Day after day hundreds of these palms are being cut down for constructing emergency buildings Unless some drastic action is taken immediately, the areca palm may be a forgotten plant

The arecanut or betelnut, as it is popularly called in India, belongs to the natural order Palmae It is not known where this palm was first noticed, but a Chinese work written about 150 B C mentions the arecanut In India it is called by various names The Tamil name is *Pakku*, *Adike* (Kanarese) and *Supari* (Hindi and Bengali) are the other well known names To day the nut is a very important commercial crop, being widely grown in the Netherland Indies Sarawak, the Malay States, Burma Ceylon and India especially Mysore In Mysore and Ceylon it is one of the chief sources of income of the villager Areca estates, like tea, rubber and cocoa estates, do not exist It is principally a money crop of the small holder Therein lies the importance of the areca industry to all those who have the welfare of the ryot at heart

Apart from the commercial value of the nut itself, the palm provides a useful live post on to which betel and pepper vines are trailed in the village gardens At a time of food crisis as at present, the areca palm comes in very handy for trailing on the vines of the different varieties of dioscorea yams The sheaths of the branches provide crude but very useful vessels for drawing water from wells In a poor country as India, this bucket is a great saving to the indigent villager

As it is difficult to estimate the daily consumption of nuts for chewing with betel in India owing to the enormous population, the following illustration from Ceylon will be interesting A very conservative estimate of the number of people who chew betel and arecanut in the Island puts the figure at about one million This million, it is assumed will partake of at least two chews a day For each chew half an arecanut is required This makes ten lakhs of arecanuts a day, valued at Rs 5 000 at the present market rate or Rs 600 at the pre 1939 market rate of one hundred nuts for an anna This totals to about two lakhs of rupees per annum. The latest export figures available indicate that twenty lakhs worth of arecanuts are exported annually, especially to India The whole the areca industry in Ceylon brings in an income of nearly two and a half

rupees annually. In India although no authoritative figures are available, the areca industry is worth about 50 lakhs.

It is no wonder then that the Department of Agriculture in Ceylon is perturbed at the ruthless destruction of this valuable palm. Of the 70,000 acres under cultivation, it is estimated that up to nearly 10,000 acres have been cut down. A nation-wide campaign for replanting arecanut has therefore been started. It is proposed to distribute a million seedlings for planting during the North-East this year, and continue doing so till the losses have been made good.

This should arouse a similar interest in the areca-growing districts of India. It is not the fate of the capitalist that is at stake, but the lives of thousands of ryots. A start must be made immediately. Let the slogan then be: "Grow more arecanuts".

TRAVANCORE UNDER SIR C. P.

BY "POLITICUS"

THE first notable act of the Dewan was the part he played in the matter of the promulgation by His Highness the Maharaja of the Temple Entry Proclamation.

As the material counterpart of the great act of social emancipation that the Proclamation is, a many sided programme of uplift of the Backward Communities is being put through in Travancore today. Members of these communities who are landless are being settled in agricultural colonies, the amenities provided include wells, open spaces for recreation and common buildings for religious worship. The colonists earn their living not only by cultivating land placed at their disposal, but through such cottage occupations as rattan work, bee-keeping, poultry farming, weaving and screwpine mat-making. Foremost among these colonies and a model of efficiency and prosperity is Sachivottamapuram at Kurichi in Central Travancore. Education among children of the Backward Communities is promoted by the grant of liberal concessions. They are exempted from payment of tuition fees in schools and colleges, are supplied with text-books, lodged in free hostels and in cases where they pursue special education given stipends. The Protector of Backward Communities, a Government Official entrusted with the duty of watching over their interests, sees to it that deserving members are appointed to the Public Service. Liberal grants-in-aid are given to several private institutions conducted for the benefit of the Backward Communities.

INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL REHABILITATION

"One of my ambitions", the Dewan said at the time of his assumption of office, "is to carry out the ideals of His Highness, namely, the relieving of the agricultural depression and the rapid industrialisation of the State on right lines, bearing in mind the fact that Travancore rejoices in the possession of unlimited resources."

A tremendous deal has been done to implement this initial declaration of policy.

Soon after Sir Ramaswami Aiyar became Dewan, an Agriculturists' Relief Act was passed and Debt Conciliation Boards set up under its provisions But as the Act in its working was found to be defective, a fresh inquiry was instituted and a new Debt Relief Act was passed which is wider in scope and application than similar enactments elsewhere.

This Act which has become operative from September 16, 1940, affects not only agricultural debts but all debts other than a very little group relating to revenue or dues to Government or local bodies and some other items of a cognate character Debts repaid within a period of two years will be reduced to 70 per cent of the total amount, while those paid within six years will be reduced to 75 per cent and those repaid within nine years will be reduced to 80 per cent From the date of commencement of the Act no future interest exceeding simple interest at 4 per cent per annum in the case of money debts and 6 per cent in the case of paddy debts could be charged. In the case of persons unable to pay their debts provision has been made for the settlement of liabilities by Court under which the debtor will make available to his creditors 75 per cent of the assets reserving to himself 25 per cent of them, so as not to exceed Rs 8 000 in value

A Credit Bank has been established to finance agriculturists with long term loans and the Dewan has been carrying on an unremitting campaign to make the State self sufficient in the matter of food by the adoption of more scientific methods of cultivation and the exploitation to the fullest extent possible of the rich fisheries of the State, both inland and marine. A vigorous drive has been set afoot under the auspices of the Department of Agriculture for the augmentation of the State's output of paddy, and it is hoped that by converting single crop paddy lands in northern taluks into double crop lands and by introducing annual cultivation in the water logged areas of Kuttanad, which could be accomplished by irrigating the former and de watering the latter with the help of power from Pallivasal, the State's deficit in paddy could be made up considerably.

Additional areas of land, too, have been brought under cultivation Thousands of acres of Forest Reserves have been leased out Manure depots have been opened in different parts of the State and hire purchase facilities afforded to agriculturists for buying implements Schemes to manufacture compost manure on a large scale out of town and market sweepings and to distribute it in rural areas have been put into operation, while large scale production of fertilizers is proposed to be accomplished through a Company (The Travancore Fertilizers & Chemicals, Ltd) that has been started under State auspices

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION

The programme of industrialisation is in full swing "Either we must industrialise or perish," is the slogan the Dewan has uttered from a hundred platforms, and striven, in a hundred ways, to drive home into the minds of the people The industrial policy he has laid down is best described in his own words "The policy of the Travancore Government,' he has made clear, 'has been and will be first to exploit those things which are the natural monopoly of the State and necessarily, therefore, of Government For that purpose and with that object in view, Government have vested in themselves and taken upon themselves

responsibility of water-supply, of drainage and the supply of cheap power through the country. The problem of transport has also been taken up by Government. Apart from these, it is not the function and will not be the pre occupation of the Travancore Government to take upon themselves any commercial enterprise."

The sugar and rubber factories, which were started under Government auspices but which were proving liabilities, are today profit-yielding concerns, thanks to the new industrial policy whereby they have been transferred to private companies.

PALLIVASAL HYDRO ELECTRIC SCHEME

The first fruits in the fields of industrialisation are the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Station which has been established at a cost of nearly one and a half crores of rupees and which supplies cheap power for industrial and agricultural purposes, the Government Ceramic Factory at Kundara, the Rubber Works at Trivandrum, the Sugar Factory at Thuckalay, the Textile Mills, the Aluminium Smelting Factory and the Glass Factory at Alwaye, the Plywood Factory at Punalur, and the Travancore Fertilisers & Chemicals, Ltd. Besides these, schemes are under way for starting factories for the manufacture of cement and sugar, for the establishment of spinning mills, and for the manufacture of rayon out of the soft woods that abound in the forests of the State.

The Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project, which is shortly to be extended to meet the increased demands for power, is only the first step in the electrical development of the State. The Dewan looks forward to the day when "by harnessing not only the hydro electric resources of the High Range but similar resources throughout the State, we will have a grid, by means of which in addition to utilising this energy for our own use and for the purpose of the State, we shall export electricity to places which are not so well blessed by nature as we are, so that we shall serve as a great central market for the distribution of cheap power throughout a not small portion of South India."

It is in pursuance of this policy that an agreement was entered into in July last between the Madras and Travancore Governments to investigate as a joint venture the power possibilities of the Periyar and Cardamom Hills area.

ROAD TRANSPORT

Closely allied to the improvement of the means of communication was the starting of the Transport Department which was ushered into existence in 1938 pursuant to Government's declared policy of nationalising State monopolies and such public utility services as transport, and supply of water and power. The Department has not only been engaged in running regular bus services and providing all possible amenities to passengers, but has conducted experiments of far-reaching importance with a view to making Travancore self-sufficient in the matter of motor fuel, by substituting charcoal gas and alcohol for petrol in operating the department's large fleet of buses. The results obtained have been very encouraging.

Other important developments in communications have been the establishment of air connection between Travancore and other important places in India by the construction of aerodromes at Trivandrum and Quilon and the introduction of a trunk telephone system for the State and its linking with the Indian Trunk. These

modern means of swift communication have annihilated Travancore s one time isolation and brought her into close and intimate contact with the outside world

TRAVANCORE UNIVERSITY

The establishment of the Travancore University is an example of the Dewan s faculty of taking quick decisions on matters of far reaching importance The question whether there should be a separate University for Travancore or a common one for the whole of Kerala was still being discussed in academic circles in a manner producing more heat than light when the Dewan decided on the former course and took the plunge He must have known that to wait for the three disparate units of Kerala to agree upon the essentials and the thousand and one details incidental to the founding of such an institution would be to postpone it to the Greek kalends And so the University of Travancore was brought into being to serve as an effective and powerful instrument for the re orientation of the whole educational system and the reorganization of secondary and collegiate education which have become a matter of fundamental importance and necessity in view on the one hand of the growing acuteness of middle class unemployment and on the other of the policy and programme of vigorous and rapid industrialisation which have been started

The University has during the last seven years of its existence done such excellent work as completely to justify the optimism with which it was founded Its varied research activities have been valuable and useful and the emphasis it has laid on the physical culture of students has led to very beneficial results

LABOUR CORPS

The University Officers Training and Labour Corps organised in September 1939 has succeeded in thoroughly transforming the personality and bearing of the undergraduate and giving him not only a sense of robust self confidence in himself but a vigorous and constructive outlook upon life The Labour Corps is playing a great part in achieving the University s ideal of imparting education of a creative and formative type producing not dull pale withered hook worms but bright men and women full of physical energy and mental alertness anxious and able to do something for the world they live in and their fellow creatures

REACHED PEAK FINANCES

The financial progress registered by the State during Sir Ramaswami Aiyar s Dewanship has been extremely striking In 1112 when he took charge of his office the State s revenue stood at 256 41 lakhs and the expenditure was Rs 241 61 lakhs Midway through the period namely in 1116 the revenue rose to 276 lakhs and expenditure to 270 lakhs For 1120 the budget has been for a total revenue of Rs 532 19 lakhs and expenditure of Rs 461 33 lakhs

Travancore today is in the incontestable position of being the third State in India in the matter of revenue Hyderabad being the first and Mysore second This increase in revenue is all the more striking when it is remembered that it is the result not of the imposition of additional taxation but only of a more systematic exploitation of existing sources of revenue

Though the State had financed during the period from 1110 to 1119 capital schemes both productive and non productive

to the extent of Rs. 568 lakhs and a food programme of Rs. 13 crores besides discharging the 5 per cent. loan of Rs. 14·75 lakhs, its borrowings in the open market have amounted only to Rs. 350 lakhs, the balance of the expenditure having been met from the resources available with Government. The financial position of the State is thus unassailably sound.

TRAVANCORE'S WAR EFFORT

Five out of the eight years of Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar's Dewanship of Travancore have been war years of exceptional stress and strain. In 1939 when war broke out, His Highness the Maharaja placed the entire resources of the State at the disposal of the Crown. The war effort of the State has been truly remarkable and her contributions in men, money and material have been on a scale worthy of the unbroken traditions of friendship and alliance between the State and the British Power.

FOOD SUPPLIES STABILISED

The measures taken by the Dewan to stabilise the food position in the State when supplies of rice from Burma were cut off, saved Travancore from the tragedy that overtook Bengal. Prompt action was taken in regard to price control, procurement, distribution and the grow more food campaign and in many of these things Travancore set the pace for the rest of India.

POST-WAR SCHEMES

For post war Travancore, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar has great plans. At a recent interview, he outlined a 12 point programme of reconstruction for the State.

The programme comprised, he said, the expansion of the present hydro-electric resources of the State, the expansion of primary and vocational education, the production of fertilisers and chemicals, utilisation and exploitation of soft wood and hard wood resources for the production of plywood and ultimately rayon and artificial silk, the exploitation of the mineral sands of the State which produce valuable and rare minerals like ilmenite, monazite and zircon, the enlargement of industries like aluminium, rubber products, china clay and porcelain, the speedy inauguration of a large cement plant for the purpose of cement-concreting the main roads of the State and the co-ordination of road transport controlled by the State with canal and sea traffic and the bringing into existence of a scheme for the fuller utilisation of all the sea, backwater and road communications in the State.

The programme also aimed (the Dewan said) at the speedy inauguration of machine tool industries in the State, enabling it to turn out spare parts in respect of the fleets of State-owned motor driven transport vehicles. He also envisaged a big public health drive comprising medical inspection of school children and improvement of public health laboratories, which already supplied all the vaccines necessary for the needs of the State, and improvement of the fisheries of the State and the purchase and utilisation of trawlers after due investigation, for the purpose of deep sea fishing.

The Dewan was of the opinion that all the money that the State had got by way of reserve would be needed for the purpose and if more money were needed, Government would have no hesitation in going to the money markets for loans.

In conclusion, the Dewan emphasised that the Travancore Government would go ahead with the schemes, independent and irrespective of any all-India plan.

ENGLAND'S SAILOR POETS

THE Royal Navy is Great Britain's Senior Service and enjoys also the reputation of being her Silent Service Perhaps because of this tradition the number of sailor poets of this war is considerably smaller than the number of soldier or airman poets

Another reason for the scarcity of naval poets may well be that the Royal Navy unlike its sister Services has scarcely any non combatant berths Sailors are literally "all in the same boat when Action Station sounds and a searchlight man in remote moors of Cornwall has more leisure —and therefore to a limited extent more stimulus—to write poetry than has the average serving sailor

Nevertheless there are several British naval poets whose work has attracted attention in this war A typical group includes Midshipman John Wedge R N V R (Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve) Lieutenant J H B Peel of the Special Duties Branch of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve Paymaster Lieutenant John Graham Royal Navy Writer John Prichard Royal Navy and Ordinary Seaman Roy Fuller Royal Navy Wedge and Peel are in their twenties The rest are all under thirty five Four of these poets are what we should call modern poets in that they have largely by passed the limitations and obligations of the traditional forms of English poetry and have preferred instead a freer pattern The fifth poet adheres consistently to the traditional styles

One would expect sailors to write of their work and an excellent example comes from Midshipman Wedge who speaks for the little ships in his poem Night Patrol" It starts vividly with —

No moon tonight Nor cloud to hide
That spangling silvery array of stars
So ashed care easily upon the wide
Black marbled dome we know as night

The verse proceeds to describe the routine of patrol—dull uneventful yet all important—and as the two trawlers steam next dawn into port the poet remarks with naval terseness

All s well without Our job is done

Easter Poem by Writer John Prichard (a Writer by the way is a non commissioned member of the Accountant Branch of the Royal Navy) reveals the ultra modern style which our young poets are forcefully adopting It starts —

A thunder and whirlwind pluck out the eyestone
He humbles out not lily from grave
But ash touching cerements shedding green meteors
Of glow worms from His shoulders and His starboard heel
Alb no from the nose of bats
With furry toadstools at His ears

It is interesting to compare the modern style of Writer Prichard with the traditional style of Lieutenant Peel Prichard's poem Winter opens with —

I see spent water frames and members
Stiff in pointed crystals
Of a simmering waning
With hollowed channels stuck in fused embers
Of simmer a fire crusted joints astare
Through starved wrinkled skins

Peel's poem Winter opens with —

Steel rain low cloud
gaunt trees all want the gloom
dank fells chill wind
and smoke inside the room;
starved birds dead leaves
and memory of the past
youth spent love fled
and I alone at last

We expect—and find—reactions from the common sights and sounds of war Ordinary Seaman Roy Fuller for example gives a vivid mondenesque cameo of a war time London railway terminus —

Charing Cross where trains depart for the bombardment
And the leave taking is particularly ardent
The obelisk in the courtyard is streaming with lime
And the doves are crying in the dusk and Time
Says I am money I am all these people

Or of an air raid —

"The loud mechanical voices of the sirens
Lured me from sleep and on the heath
Moths fall into a mounting shaft of light.
Airplanes whirr over and then the night stays
quiet.

Of another school are the verses of Lieutenant Peel. They concern chiefly the English countryside. Indeed, in his two published books, only three poems are war poems. For better or for worse, he appears to find the mainstream of emotion otherwhere than in the contemporary scene. His poem "Places" reveals the sailor's nostalgia for his home.

It opens thus —

Scattered up and down the land,
quiet, sequestered places stand
places steeped in summer sun
where I heard the brooklet run
with a murmur through the meadow
while I listened from the shadow
places high on English hills:
places by slow water mills
where I marked the clear feet linger
while it brushed my dangled fingers
places deep in worldless wood
where the autumn beeches stood
staring at their own gay garment,
lost in self bewonderment.

The English scene appears again when the same writer asks,

O Lord, now can a man be bored
when he walks on the earth?
How can he yawn, as some men do,
amid unceasing birth?
With stars to gaze at in the sky,
and dew beneath his feet:
with leaves abud and moist with sap
when Spring and Winter meet
with galaxies of Wind and rain,
and crow of cock at dawn:
with snow gulfed lane and harvest plain,
and robin on the lawn
with these and more to feed his eye
and sing unto his soul,
the man who's bored on earth must be
as blind as any mole

By way of contrast, there is a terse picture of naval bombardment, written in ultra-modern style by Paymaster Lieutenant Graham, Royal Navy.

Rip wrack red sears dull battleship
Grey
And the unknowable shell
Carves
Through the armoured hull with a
Crunch
Hell is loosed—engines, guns, men spew effort.

It is, of course, impossible to quote from every naval poem: it is impossible, in a short space, even to sift them and to find therein a specific message. War-time is not the time for weaving a philosophy. Yet two facts stand out clear from Britain's war-time naval poets—first, a legitimate pride in the traditions of the Royal Navy and a determination to uphold those traditions; second, a suspicion (albeit a tart and hurt suspicion) that life, despite the blood and tears and sweat of the moment, is not so chaotic as is the contemporary scene. Perhaps this outlook has been crystallised in this very brief verse by Lieutenant Peel called "Twins".

There never was a joy
that held not also grief:
nor grief that did not swell
capacity for joy:
and those who weep that joy
must ever end too soon,
weep foolishly—as those
who think grief will endure.

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INDIA AND BRETTON WOODS

By Mr S RAMAN M A

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THE aims of the International Monetary Conference in which forty four countries participated were to devise the means to facilitate the flow of International Trade by securing the easy convertibility of one currency into any other and to establish an International Bank to assist the economic development of the countries including restoration of economies destroyed or paralysed by war

An International Monetary Fund is proposed to be constituted to meet the first aim If all the participating countries agree to join the Fund and contribute their quotas the Fund will amount to 8 800 million dollars India s contribution will be 400 million dollars and she occupies the sixth place in the list of contributors in order of importance The Executive Committee of the Fund will consist of twelve members and the five countries with the largest quotas U S A U K U S S R China and Russia will have permanent seats on it and two seats are reserved for Latin American countries India which occupies just the sixth place on the list has to contest for a place of the remaining five seats The quota of each member country is to be paid 25 per cent in gold or 10 per cent of the net official holdings of gold and U S A dollars in gold and the remaining in its local currency The countries having the five permanent seats will be the depositories of the gold contributed by members The method of operating the Fund for ensuring multilateral convertibility of the currencies is elaborate and need not detain us here Firstly the Fund will come into being if only the countries concerned ratify the decision of the Monetary Conference and secondly a transitional period of five years has been agreed upon during which each country may operate its exchanges according to its discretion and on the top of all any country can secede from the Fund any time if it finds the membership of Fund not worthwhile

What is India s place in the scheme of such a Fund? She has no permanent seat on the Executive Committee though she occupies just the sixth place on the list She has a quota of 400 million dollars One wonders on what basis this quota has been fixed whether by area population or international trade Judged by everyone of these standards India deserves at least a higher place than China s But this is not all One is surprised to know that India cannot alter her exchanges unless she has the prior consent of U S A Britain and Russia Till now Indian currency has been claimed to the British but with the working of the Fund there will be two more fetters For one of the clauses of the constitution of the Fund is that a charge in the exchange rate of any country s currency could be effective if only such a change is consented to by all the countries whose quotas are ten per cent or over of the total amount of the Fund Thus India s 400 million dollars is but 4 5 per cent of the total whereas the U S A s is 31 25 per cent U K s 14 8 per cent and the U S S R s 13 6 per cent So India cannot alter her exchanges as she would like

The purpose of the Indian delegates participating in the Conference was to devise a machinery by which the blocked sterling balance of India in London could be released for purpose of India s trade with all countries and for developing her own industries after the return of peace In both the Conference disappointed the Indian delegation

If India should agree to the liquidation of the sterling balances at the rate of thirty million pounds a year the repayment will be spread over at least thirty years That shows the huge amount of British indebtedness to India Probably before the war is over the sterling debt will mount higher than the World Monetary Fund The sterling debt represents the great sacrifice that India has made for allied war effort in India if only such sacrifice that can be easily reckoned in monetary terms This huge amount was sought to be brought within the purview of the International Monetary Fund by Mr A D Shroff and Sir R K Shanmukham Chetti The Indian delegate s

intention was to secure multilateral convertibility for India's sterling balances blocked in London, so that they might be liquidated, over a period of years by India's trade with all countries of the Fund and by drawing, for payment, on the sterling balances. As things stand at present, India, while importing from countries other than Britain, is not in a position to pay for them by drawing on the sterling reserves in London. In effect, India has to find other means of paying them, while she is, in a subtle way, pinned to trading with Britain alone. The British and U S. delegations joined hands in turning down the Indian demand for the incorporation of a clause in the constitution of the Fund to secure the multilateral convertibility of the sterling balances, with the result that the Conference voted against it.

A second disappointment was in store for the Indian delegation. This was in connection with Sir Shanmukham's proposal that the Monetary Fund should be utilised with the object of not merely increasing the volume of international trade but also for a more balanced flow of the increasing volume of trade and that, for that end in view, the proposed Fund should help the industrially backward countries like India and China in developing their economic position. The U S delegation opposed the proposal and it is not surprising that the Indian view did not prevail at the Conference The U S A view was that the acceptance of Sir Shanmukham's proposal would result in jeopardising the working of the Fund and that the proposed International Bank was the proper institution to take up such and similar proposals

Negotiations relating to Indian sterling debt are due to open shortly. In this connection, Sir John Anderson's statement that Britain's creditors must not treat war debts on the same footing as commercial debts and that they have also "incurred some kind of debt to us which they can pay by their confidence in us" is a pointer to the trend of the coming negotiations, on the British side. The Indian view has been that the sterling assets should be released for paying for India's trade with all countries and that a great portion of it should be used for developing Indian industries and for the import of plant machinery from other countries. The Bretton Woods Conference was of little help to the Indian delegation in these matters and it was contended there that the sterling debt was a purely on Indo-British affair to be settled by bilateral negotiations. But now, it is known that there will be a Conference of the sterling debt countries for settling the sterling debts question. It is too difficult to surmise how the diametically opposed views of Britain and India on the sterling debt question could be reconciled at a Conference, not bilateral, but multilateral consisting of all the sterling debt countries. Will Britain try to raise an economic wall round the Empire to safeguard her commercial interests as she did last time at the Ottawa Conference: Imperial Preference. Will Imperial Preference raise its head once again?

Now, adverting to the second aim of the Monetary Conference. The International Bank will be a non-political institution with an authorised capital of ten thousand million dollars divided into 100,000 shares available for subscription for members only. The quotas for the forty four countries of the Conference aggregate to 8,800 million dollars, leaving the rest for subscription by prospective members. The purposes of the Bank are to assist the development and reconstruction of countries ravaged by war and promotion of economic development and canalisation of trade on planned, balanced routes. The major operation of the Bank will be to finance loans, to the maximum eighty per cent. of its resources. The World's first International Bank for Reconstruction and Development will come into being, when member countries whose minimum subscriptions comprise not less than seventy-five per cent. of the total subscriptions of the countries at the Conference, desire to found it.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Scientists' Plea for National Government

"GENTLEMEN", said Prof. A V. Hill at a Press Conference at the Royal Society, London, "you must remember that Shanti is a Hindu and Nazir is a Muslim, but both want the same thing" The occasion was the reception accorded with great cordiality and goodwill to the five Indian scientists now on a study visit to England. The outstanding feature of the occasion was the very frank and candid exchange of views even on delicate questions of controversial politics The first question fired at the visitors was

is it possible to achieve what the scientists have in mind without a National Government'

This brought out the prompt reply from Sir S. S. Bhatnagar:

It is obvious that the industrial progress of India will be best developed under a National Government. There is no doubt about it, but it would be criminal, even as what we are to day, to sit back and refuse to start doing anything We must begin to plan now We must hope that sooner or later, India will have a National Government, and what we do now with all the shortcomings, by way of preparation would be of immense value in the future

Dr. Nazir Ahmed endorsed Sir S. S. Bhatnagar's sentiments. It was then that Prof. Hill who had brought Indian and British scientists together made this observation that Indian scientists, of whatever caste or community, are one in their demand for National Government as essential to any efficient or successful scheme of scientific development in India.

Mr. Kelkar's Suggestion to end the Deadlock

Everybody is convinced that the continuance of the political deadlock is at the root of all troubles in India. But how to end it? Government's 'demand for complete agreement among the parties is as impossible as the audacious demand for a "hands off" policy in war-time. If both are out of the question, there must be a *tia media*, and Mr. Kelkar, the veteran Maharatta politician, points the way to a practical solution.

The Government can immediately Indianise the whole Executive Council and fully work out the convention of non interference in the Council's administration. Reservation, if necessary, may be claimed in respect of the Military Department on the ground that no Indians are available who are intimately acquainted with the actual military administration

Further when Parliamentary elections have been going on in the Dominions and Ireland and even the Presidential elections are being actually held in America, why should we not follow their lead in India? There can be nothing inappropriate or impracticable in adopting this normal course in democratic constitutions.

There can be, in my opinion, absolutely no objection to holding elections to the Provincial and Central Assemblies, calling upon political parties to form ministries and also to proceed with the formation of a Constitutent Assembly. This will show that the Government is earnest about taking a step forward in political progress

Surely as Mr. Kelkar points out, the prospect of elections and the formation of ministries will be taken by the people

as some token of the genuineness of Government's intentions towards India about a political settlement after the war

The late Professor Keith

Professor Berriedale Keith, whose death at the age of 65, occurred last month, at Edinburgh, was distinguished alike as a great Sanskrit scholar and an acknowledged authority on empire constitutional problems. He held office for ten years as Secretary to the Crown agents for Colonies and later became Regius Professor of Sanskrit and Comparative Philosophy since 1914. His publications ranged over many aspects of the imperial constitution touching the powers of the Crown and Parliament on the one hand and the relation between England and the Dominions on the other. His works on subjects dealing with Indian literature, philology, history and politics, earned for him the reputation in India of a great scholar of liberal outlook, wide culture and broad humanism.

Readers of the *Indian Review* will remember with gratitude his passionate plea for democratising our institutions. Year after year, we could always count on Dr. Keith's special contribution to our Annual and it is sad to think we shall miss his scholarly articles in the *Review* in future.

Mr. Churchill on India

More than once in his recent speeches in Parliament, Mr. Churchill's rhetoric has carried him beyond his depths. Of course, from time to time, he had to be pulled up by members who are not unfamiliar with his audacities. But his reference to India was a bit too much of an irrelevance and made his position, in the eyes of some at any rate, altogether ridiculous. For the Prime Minister is reported to have broken into this dithyramb.

> Once again India and her vast population have reposed serenely among the tumults and hurricanes of the world behind the Imperial shield (cheers). The fact should sometimes be noted that under British rule in the last 80 years incomparably fewer people have perished by steel or firearms in India than in any similar area or community throughout the globe

Quickly rose Mr. McGovern of the Independent Labour Party and interjected testily but very aptly

> Many have perished by hunger

But Churchill is a tough guy and is not to be snubbed so easily. He went on complacently

> Well, the population has increased by 60 million in the last ten years It is evident that the famine which was caused by military conditions affecting transport is by no means representative of the administration under which the broad peninsula of India has met the increase of population, exceeding in speed of that of any increase throughout the whole world (cheers)
>
> I *think it a very remarkable fact* that India has received this shelter and has been this vast harbour of peace protected by the armies and authority of Great Britain, and protected also by the care and attention of this House .

Comment would be superfluous , but the audacity of this picture of India serenely reposing behind the imperial shield beats all record even of his own perversities. For as a contemporary rightly puts it.

> India as a fact is suffering all the horrors of war which Britain is suffering and more The British people are not suffering from dearth of food. They are said to be better off than before the war though the country itself produces only one third of its normal requirements India, it is true, has not had flying bombs over her cities But there was the Bombay explosion which reminded some one of Blazed London and we have epidemi s carrying off hundreds and thousands. If all this is serene repose, Mr Churchil, must have been grossly misinformed or be wilfully misleading his countrymen

The Passing of Wendell Willkie

Wendell Willkie, the author of that great book "One World", has passed away at the early age of 51. President Roosevelt, who had occasion to know him intimately both as political opponent and later as a warm admirer of his foreign policy, spoke of him truly when he said: "The nation will long remember Mr. Willkie as a forthright American; earnest, honest and whole-souled, he also had tremendous courage. . . . In this hour of grave crisis, the country loses a great citizen."

Willkie was, in the best sense of the phrase, a citizen of the world, and not only America but all the world is the poorer for his death. To the peoples of the East in general and to us in India, in particular, he typified the liberty loving American who stood steadfast by his principles with a courage and determination which nothing could shake.

Willkie came into the limelight when the Republican Party put him up to oppose President Roosevelt in 1940. Though defeated in the Election, he made a deep impresion by his whole hearted support of the President's foreign policy and the unusual quality of his political idealism.

As a personal Representative of President Roosevelt, he visited all the important war-fronts in 1942 and his "One World" is a record of impresions of the tour, which for its candour and courage is a document of rare excellence. Willkie's itinerary was circumscribed by the President's expressed desire that he should not go to India. But everybody knew the reason. Why he had said enough without actually visiting this country, when he quoted "the wisest man in China" saying·

> When the aspiration of India for freedom was put aside to some future date, it was not Great Britain that suffered in public esteem in the Far East It was the United States.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By CHRONICLER

Mr Churchill on Moscow Talks

MR CHURCHILL made the promised statement on his visit to Russia on October 27 in the House of Commons He said The results achieved have been highly satisfactory I am quite sure he added

that no final results can be obtained until the three Governments again meet together and I trust they will meet soon I am quite glad that our relations with Russia are never more close intimate and cordial than now We have had a frank and friendly discussion on several points and over a wide area we are in full agreement

Mr Churchill wished that the crucial issue of Poland had been settled But he was sure that the three Governments American Russian and British were agreed in establishing a strong and free Poland loyal to the Allied and friendly to her liberator Russia

Battle of the Philippines

A mighty amphibious force has landed upon the island of Leyte Making the announcement from the White House President Roosevelt said We promised to return and we have returned

The President added that the operations were on a very big scale The invasion force under the command of General MacArthur was the greatest force ever to engage in operations in the South West Pacific

The Philippines have been in Japanese hands since May 1942 The invasion was preceded by intense aerial and naval bombardment Aircraft from Morotai Palau and China bases bombarded the Philippines

The Egyptian Cabinet

King Farouk of Egypt has dismissed the Cabinet of Nahas Pasha and has called on Ahmed Maher Pasha to form a new Cabinet

In a letter to Ahmed Maher Pasha King Farouk said

In view of the present critical moments and as I am sure of your ability and sincerity to carry out the task I have decided to ask you to form the new Cabinet

It has been known for a long time that there were differences between the Palace and Nahas Pasha

League of United Nations

The United States Britain the Soviet Union China and later France will have the main power and responsibility for keeping the peace of the world according to tentative proposals of the Dumbarton Oaks Plan

They will have permanent seats on the Security Council of a New League to be called United Nations Six other States will be elected to the Council for two year periods This Council of 11 will have full powers to put down aggression by many means including Air Naval and Land actions without reference to the view of all the United Nations

Four main bodies will be set up according to the plan They are the Security Council which in effect may virtually command the armed forces of the world a General Assembly of all the members that is of All Peace loving States an International Court of Justice and finally a Secretariat

De Valera's Demand for United Ireland

The suggestion that Mr Eamon De Valera Prime Minister of Eire intends to bring before the Peace Conference the question of ending the partition between Eire and Northern Ireland was made in the Commons recently by Professor Douglas Savory the Conservative Member of Parliament for Belfast in Northern Ireland

He quoted De Valera as saying The need and urgency of restoring the unity of Ireland is ever before the Government No opportunity for bringing home to those concerned the injustice of the present position and its bearing on the relations between Ireland and Britain has been or will be neglected

Red Army Victories

The Soviet President M Mikhail Kalinin hailing the victories of the Red Army said that the day was not far off when the Allied and Soviet armies would meet on German territory He forecast that Hungary would soon be lost to Germany

The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

GANDHIJI—HIS LIFE AND WORK: Edited by D. G. Tendulkar, M Chelapathi Rau, Mridula Sarabhai and Vithal K. Jhaveri. Published by Karnatak Publishing House, Bombay. Rs. 25.

This is a sumptuous volume of over 500 pages containing articles and pictures depicting every phase of Mahatmaji's life and career. Printed on thick antique paper and handsomely bound, this beautiful Souvenir was, as our readers are aware, presented to Gandhiji on his 75th birthday: and its contents and get up alike make it a worthy memento of the occasion. It appropriately opens with Nanda Lal Bose's famous "Dandi March" picture in colours and eloquent messages from Prof. Einstein and Pearl Buck. Almost every aspect of Gandhiji's life and thought is dealt with in the contributions, most of them original articles, and some judiciously culled from the writings of Mahadev Desai, Jawaharlal, Khan Saheb and others. Among original articles mention may be made of Mr. K. R. Kripalani's essay on Gandhi and Tagore, Verier Elwin's touching study of Mahadev Desai, Chalapathi Rau's moving story of Gandhian marches and Mr. G. A. Natesan's reminiscences of the Gandhis as they returned home in 1915 from their labours in South Africa. Apart from these articles and reminiscences and a comprehensive album of photographs, there is a section devoted to a chronological account of the Mahatma's life and activities, while another contains a record of his writings on important topics. The editors and publishers alike, with whom the production has evidently been a work of love, have made every effort to render the volume as complete and attractive as possible. This is certainly the best gift book of the season.

A WEEK WITH GANDHI. By Louis Fischer. International Book House, Bombay. Rs. 3 4.

Louis Fisher, the well-known American journalist, kept a careful diary during the week he spent with Gandhiji at Sevagram. This is a faithful record of his impressions of Gandhi and the working of his mind made at the time, day after day, as he returned to his quarters after the talks which to him were "a rich stimulating experience."

Throughout the talks, which are as unconventional as they are initimate, Gandhiji's insistent plea for freedom runs like a thread. "There is no half way house between withdrawal and non-withdrawal" (of the British) he says. "It is, of course, no complete withdrawal that I ask. I shall insist, however, on the transfer of political power from the British to the Indian people" which "must be irrevocable and complete." That is the burden of the book, from beginning to end. Mr. Fischer's concluding chapter is an acute and penetrating diagnosis of Gandhiji's mind and its working, which will amply repay perusal.

DR. EDWARD BENES Published by the Czechoslovak Societies in India Bombay and Calcutta. As. 8.

Dr. Edward Benes, the President of Czechoslovakia, who has recently completed his sixtieth birthday, is perhaps the wisest statesman today and good wishes are being showerd upon him from all parts of the world for the supreme courage and tenacity with which he and his countrymen are waging a relentless war against the Nazi regime and its satellites in Europe. This pamphlet is a tribute to his remarkable gifts as a leader of the Czech nation in its hour of trial and gives us a glimpse of his life and character. It also reveals the indomitable zeal with which he works for the liberation of his country from the Nazi barbarians.

POST WAR CONSTRUCTION By D Pant B Com Ph D Kitab Mahal Allahabad Rs 2 8

Almost every country in the world is now busy planning for post war construction and only awaits the Cease fire order to put into operation schemes for which blue prints are already in the making Can India alone afford to be caught napping when the time comes? Government and private bodies should lose no time in getting their plans ready lest we should lose ourselves in the jungle of problems confronting the post war world Every contribution in that line must be welcomed Dr Pant s thesis is marked by a breadth of view and grasp of essentials that cannot be ignored in any serious discussion of vital issues before the country Education administration industrial and agricultural economy un employment—all these come within the orbit of his discussion Some of his con clusions are challenging The small States have no future , he says Either they will cease to exist or by merger they will have to evolve bigger units In place of ruralisation urbanisation will be the keynote of the future Large number of surplus men from the villages will be shifted into cities to work in the factories And then wages will be paid in the basis of family as an unit and not on the basis of individual And these fundamental changes are to be reckoned with not on a regional basis but on the basis of the world There is certainly much in these to provoke thought and discussion

A CASE FOR CONGRESS LEAGUE UNITY By Sajjad Zaheer People s Publishing House Bombay As 8

An attempt is made in this pamphlet (containing articles reprinted from the People s War) to analyse recent League politics characterising the demand for Pakistan as a just progressive and national demand The author appeals to Congress men to recognise the demand which would be a big step forward towards unity leading to the formation of National Government and to the League to demand for the release of Congress leaders which would lead to better understanding between the two communities But the case for Pakistan is extremely vague ill defined superficial and unconvincing in spite of his analogies from Russia

BOOKS RECEIVED

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LIFE OF W C BONNERJEE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS By Sadhona Bonnerjee 66 Lansdowne Road Bhawanipur Calcutta

FORTY THREE YEARS Jayant and Tara By George Barrett Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay

THE HORIZON (Poems articles and short stories by 40 people) Popular Book Depot Bombay 7

THE BOMBAY PLAN By Principal B R Shenoy Karnatak Publishing House Bombay 2

OUR ECONOMIC CONDITION Data compiled by the Economics Research Committee and edited by Dr Baljit Singh N R Agarwal & Co M K Garden Agra

WITH THE 14TH ARMY By D F Karaka Thacker & Co Ltd Bombay Rs 4 12

CO OPERATIVES IN A PLANNED ECONOMY By M R Masani Industrial Co-operatives Library Aundh

THE POLISH QUESTION By F A Voigt

RUSSIA POLAND AND INDIA By S R Ali

SOCIALISTS AND POLAND By Patrick J Dollan,

INDIA IN OUTLINE By Lajpat Rai Cambridge University Press (Macmillan & Co) Madras

INDIAN FAIRY TALES By Nagardas Patel Kitabghar Rajkot

MUDRA RAKSHASA By R S Pandit New Book Company Bombay

HIMALAYAN JOURNEY By John Thomas Thacker & Co , Ltd Bombay

THE CORE OF A CONTINENT By Henry K Straus burger The Indo Polish Library 78 Nepean Sea Road Bombay

FOOD FOR THOUGHT By Bernard J Duffy M A Longmans Green & Co Ltd Madras

HINDUSTAN OR PAKISTAN INDIA PARTITION OR UNITY Ilami Markaz Y M C A Lahore

HOTCHPOTCH By Ruplal Kapur Bodle an & Co , Lahore

COMMONSENSE ABOUT YOGA By Swami Pavitra-nanda Advaita Ashrama Calcutta

INDIA S STERLING POSITION AND THE WAR By Malendra Dhar M A B L Co operative Book Depot 54 College Street Calcutta

DIARY OF THE MONTH

——:o:——

Oct. 1. Mr. Phillips who saw the President today states that he continues to be Roosevelt's Personal Envoy.

Oct. 2. Gandhiji's 75th birthday celebrations; Thakkar Baba presents public purse of 85 lakhs.

Oct. 3. Mr. Jinnah criticises Gandhi-C. R formula at a Press Conference.

Oct. 4 Red Army joins up with Tito's forces.

—1000 Germans surrounded by Finnish troops.

Oct. 5. Mr Amery tells the House of Commons that he sees no reason for releasing Jawaharlal Nehru and the Congress leaders now in prison.

Oct. 6. Prof. Berriedale Keith is dead.

—Campaign in Greece Samos captured.

Oct 7. Akhand Hindustan Conference meets at New Delhi, Dr. Radha Kumud Mukerji presiding.

—3000 bombers raid Germany.

Oct. 8. Nahas Pasha's Cabinet is dismissed.

—Wendell Willkie is dead.

Oct 9. Mr. Churchill in Moscow.

—Russian drive to Budapest.

—Earl of Munster, Under Secretary for India, arrives in India.

Oct 10. Encirclement of Aachen complete: Ultimatum given to enemy to surrender in 24 hours.

—New Egyptian Cabinet formed with Ahmed Maher Pasha as Premier

Oct. 11. Bombardment of Aachen—the German Commander having rejected the ultimatum.

Oct. 12 Allied 1000 plane raid on Formosa.

—Bulgaria accepts armistice.

—Indian scientists arrive in England.

Oct 13. Athens declared an open City.

Oct. 14. 1000 plane raid on Cologne.

—Dr. Gaulle laments Allied neglect of France.

Oct. 15. Rommel is dead.

—Athens liberated.

Oct. 16. Nazi coup in Hungary. Admiral Horthy forced to retire.

Oct. 17. Gandhi Syed Mahomed talks at Wardhaganj.

Oct. 18. Hitler's proclamation: fresh call up in Germany.

—Red Army enters East Prussia.

Oct. 19. Allies land in the Philippines.

—Indian troops capture Tiddim.

—Americans take Aachen.

Oct. 20. Fall of Belgrade.

—Gen. McArthur takes capital of Lete island.

Oct. 21. Navy day celebrations in India.

—Sir John Beaumont appointed to the Privy Council.

Oct 22. British launch new offensive in W. Holland.

Oct. 23 U. S. recognises De Gaulle's administration.

—Dr. Syed Mahomed explains his release.

Oct. 24. Jap withdrawal in Philippines.

—Indian Congress rejects Natal Draft Ordinance.

Oct 25. Naval clash in the Pacific.

—Russians enter Norway.

Oct 26. Dr. William Temple, Archbishop of Canterbury, passes away.

Oct. 27. Mr. Churchill makes a statement in the Commons on the Moscow talks.

—Gandhiji gives suggestion to Congress workers in a message to Bombay Conference.

Oct. 28. Bombay Conference endorses Gandhiji's proposals.

—Gen Stilwell recalled, Lt. Gen. Daniel Sultan is appointed in his place.

Oct. 29. Belgium liberated.

—Allied push in Holland.

—Japs bomb Cox Bazaar.

Oct. 30. Mr. Sargent, Educational Commissioner for India explains his scheme in a B.B C. talk.

Oct. 31. Mr. Churchill declares in the Commons that Coalition Government should continue till the end of war.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

ECONOMIC SITUATION IN INDIA

Describing the economic situation in India as being in a 'state of precarious stability," a correspondent living in India says in the current number of the *Round Table* that

India's physical contribution to the United Nations war effort is greater in relation to its resources than that of any other country except perhaps Russia

Referring to India's sterling balances in Britain, he says that in view of the fact that India's contribution to the war effort is such that minimum civilian requirements could not be provided, the Indian desire to have the sterling balances internationalised is 'understandable'

The correspondent after dealing with recent political events, the Gandhi Wavell correspondence and Gandhiji's offer to Mr Jinnah, draws the conclusion

Mr Gandhi's offensive has misfired The actual situation is Mr Gandhi demanded transfer of power which cannot legally be made without major constitutional changes and which have been ruled out as impracticable during the war, to a National Government which in the present state of Hindu Muslim relations could not be formed

The author asserts complacently that the only lesson is that there is no short cut to a solution of the Indian political problem

The writer then deals with the shortages of grain and coal supplies and comments

It looks as though the United Nations might sooner or later have to decide that if they want India as a base for operations on a grand scale, they cannot at the same time expect her to maintain her war production—that is, of course, unless they are prepared to go further than they have hitherto done in the way of helping the country to bear the load they seek to place upon it

INDIAN DISUNITY—AN EXCUSE

The magazine *Amerasia* commenting on the significance of Gandhi Jinnah meetings, says

Ever since the failure of the Cripps Mission, the entire emphasis of British propaganda, both within India and abroad, has been concentrated on the contention that, as long as there is no unity within India she cannot be considered ready to be master of her own destiny In reality, this British contention is false and unjust

The truth is that Britain has no intention of giving India her freedom, says the magazine—

a fact sufficiently demonstrated by Britain's insistence that 562 native Indian princes must agree to any future political settlement when it is obvious these autocratic rulers will never voluntarily consent to a settlement that deprives them of British protection As far as the question of Hindu Muslim antagonism is concerned, this problem has been artificially aggravated by British propaganda and by small sections of both Hindu and Muslim communities This is particularly true of large land owners who are fearing real unity between Hindu and Muslim peasants and have become the chief allies of the British in obstructing the Indian struggle for freedom The British Government used its supreme power to keep thousands of Congress party leaders in jail and to maintain strict censorship on news from India It used its extensive propaganda machine to stir up anti American sentiment in India and anti Indian sentiment in the United States and to convince public opinion, particularly in Britain and America that there is nothing but disunity in India—a conclusion that is wholly untrue

In daily lives Indian people both in social and economic levels and in legislative assemblies there is as much unity as in most countries

The only time there appears to be serious disunity in India is when a hard and fast agreement between the Congress and League is made the essential pre requisite to the attainment of Indian freedom It is clear to most foreign observers that if India were a free nation a variety of economic social and religious problems would exist just as they do in most countries and that they would be handled by the normal processes of democratic procedure But since India is not a free country and since the Indian people are impoverished and politically enslaved the only weapon remaining to them is complete national unity

NEPAL: THE LAND OF THE GURKHAS

Like the *Forum* of Bombay, the *Saturday Mail* of Calcutta has come to stay. Its Puja Special is packed with articles and pictures of popular interest. We have a number of articles on different phases of the war, besides a complete chronology of the outstanding events of the war from September, 1939. The *Saturday Mail* has a wholesome nationalistic outlook and expresses itself with vigour and trenchency on political topics. Readers with no particular bias for politics will appreciate the fine pen picture of Nepal and the little known free bit of India nestling in the Himalayas. Mr Manoranjan Bhattacharya, who has evidently lived among the Gurkhas long enough to love and admire the beautiful country and its people, records his impressions in a pleasant discursive essay.

If then the memories of Nepal are so dear to me, it is primarily because the Nepal valley was so full of charm for me East or West, North or South, whichever way one may cast one's look, one's eyes encounter the lofty hills, black and hairy, guarding the liberty of the land. It gives me pleasure to think that nature in her sympathy and admiration for the valour of the people has raised for them these ramparts, proof against the cannon of the foe. The snow ranges at a distance in the north and the high peaks all around lend a charm and beauty to the whole valley which itself is dotted with a good number of pretty hillocks.

HINDU SCRIPTURES AND CHARITY

Hindu scriptures enjoin upon every house holder the practice of charity in the spirit of worship of God in man with a view to attaining purification of mind. The *Prabuddha Bharata* writes:

The motive of charity is not to be pity, compassion, or fear, for that only degrades both the giver and the receiver. Practically every religion in the world teaches man to grow unselfish and spiritual through giving freely to the needy as much as lies in one's power without any thought of return. Ancient Indian society though freely practising widespread charity, successfully tackled the problem of beggars, through the caste system and the joint family system. In modern times, the mechanical civilization of the West has unsettled Indian social life. The economic exploitation of the masses and maldistribution of the country's wealth have thrown many out of their resources. Poverty has greatly increased within the last one hundred years. Living cost and taxation have steadily risen, thus straining the resources of middle class people who consequently have very little to spare for charitable purposes.

It is difficult to make any choice between the so-called 'indiscriminate' charity of India and the legally organized charity of the West. Each has its good side as well as its bad side.

While in India the poor are contented to receive what they are given and live a peaceful life, the vagrants in Western countries, unwilling to confine themselves to work houses and poor houses, take to anti social activities necessitating an elaborate system of laws, police and magistracy. In India the clearest distinction is made between religious mendicancy and professional beggary. The *sannyasin* who begs his food is held by all in high respect as the custodian of culture and spirituality. Thus beggary in India is not synonymous with vagrancy. Besides, on the whole, the Indian system seems to be more congenial to moral and spiritual growth. Private charity cannot be ruled out of court But that is no reason why there should not be more organized charity in India for social betterment.

THE FAITH OF A PATRIOT

Mr. E. R. Govindan, Editor of *Free India*, has brought out a 60 page Dasara Special with many interesting features. The multi-coloured picture on the cover depicts a scene of moving grandeur and poignancy—Bapuji and Devadas standing beside the bier of Kasturba. In a brief message C R reiterates his faith in simple but pregnant words. "Let us not feel frustrated or even overmuch dejected over our country's present condition." He says:

It is true that during the last two decades and specially during this World War, we had great opportunities, and may be, we did not use them well. But there is infinite time before us and our present duty is to face, as Marcus Aurelius has pointed out, the future and not mourn over the past. There is struggle ahead of us Though some of us think that the difficulty is likely to be more internal than external, some others believe that Britain will resist us to her utmost capacity. Assuming the worst and that we have got over it, India emancipated, must still be friends with Britain The phases of civilisation and history we have passed through, bind us inevitably to the politics and culture of that country in the world context. Free India must be inter dependent with Britain Any other plan will simply not do and lead only to frustration and agony.

He goes on to add:

No principle of human action either as between the communities of India, or between us all and the outside world, can be put into effect if we are not prepared to make concessions recognising those qualifying principles that are necessary in order to make the original principles true and capable of being worked out in a given context. If we realize this truth, we shall not fail to achieve our goal very soon.

NEW FORMS IN EVERY ART

"I have no doubt whatsoever that our Renaissance will evolve new forms in every art", writes Bharati Sarabhai in the last number of the *Hindoosthan* quarterly. "But to be great art, to be a people's heritage, and in our age to be international, it has to be related to our tradition. And before this can happen, we must have in our country possibilities of seeing and studying each style of art and craft in its purity. Each indigenous school has to be learnt and mastered and brought home to the people By 'reviving' a lost art, which had reached a high measure of perfection and which must have meaning for us even as the classics of literature continue to teach, to inspire and to provide us with "touchstones" we shall prepare the ground for original authentic forms to rise, forms that will satisfy our individuality and the time and place that condition us in part The value of studying each style properly is only recently being recognised in the various dance academies of our country."

6 POINT PLAN FOR GERMANY

A six point Allied plan for Germany after the war is forecast by Quentin Reynolds in the American weekly *Colliers* He declares that the full peace terms, in which these six points are included, were drawn up some time ago by representatives of Britain, the United States and Russia

Under the terms, he states Germany will be occupied by an Allied Army of 800 000 men, provided equally by Britain, Russia and the United States, deprived of any standing army of any kind, completely demilitarised and forbidden to make even small arms for the next 50 years, compelled to surrender not only her arms but also machinery for making arms, including machine tools and explosives, denied all aircraft, including sports planes, and rationed in materials for its chemical industry, which will be rigidly controlled

Reynolds says he gives this forecast after talks with men who have drafted the programme

INFLATION AND HIGH PRICES

"India fights inflation" is the subject of an article by Dr. P J. Thomas in the *New Review* It is true the war has encouraged speculators to put through large transactions and make huge profits. Even agriculturists took to hoarding of foodgrains expecting high prices. When the prices of things went high, many people thought that confidence in the rupee was weakening Mr Thomas writes as follows about the situation

The unguarded expressions of certain political economists also lent support to this view But it was clear to some of us that such fears were altogether wrong Although the internal value of the rupee was going down, judged from the rise in the cost of living yet its external value could not go down because India was rapidly becoming a creditor nation Her trade balances were favourable and war did not involve any great difficulties in balancing India s budget or any great addition to her internal debt Even the fall in the internal value was rather due to an unusual scarcity of goods resulting from war effort in a country living on the bare margin of subsistence, and not from a loss of confidence in the rupee There was no rush to buy foreign currencies, nor any of the other symptoms familiarly associated with a flight from money The fact is that owing to the slowness of immobilisation, much money had been left with the people (a thing which would not have been tolerated in other countries), and this was freely used for speculative transactions and questionable company floatations Thus a serious artificial scarcity for goods was created by extensive hoarding, and the price of common consumption goods like foodgrains, cloth, medicines, etc, went up

Early, in 1943 the Government realised the seriousness of the situation and began to take energetic action. Mr Thomas recalls what the Government did to fight the crisis

From May, 1943, a series of measures were carried out for discouraging specultive transactions of all kinds Effective measurse were also taken to control the dealings in cloth and leather goods As a result, the rise in prices of common consumption goods was arrested and even food grain prices which remained high in Bengal, have made a rapid retreat The cost of living has also begun to fall Thus the internal purchasing pewer of rupee has been rising and as for the external value, the position has been growing strong, as indicated by India s credit position trade balances, budget position and other admitted tests

HINDU-MUSLIM UNITY

In the course of a remarkable article entitled "My Brother's Face", Mr. Mohammad Ali Azam discusses the Hindu Muslim problem in the pages of *Asia and the Americas* in the light of his own experience. The article opens dramatically.

As I walked one day in the mountains, I saw at a distance what I took to be a beast. As I drew nearer, I saw it was a man As I came nearer still, I discovered that it was my brother.

After recounting his experiences, the writer comes to grips with the problem on hand:

In fact the barrier between a Hindu and a Muslim is almost always more artificial than not—it is more superficial than not, and when properly analysed it reduces to a thin veneer of misunderstanding such as could exist between the same mother's sons.

I have not tried to prove that we the Hindu and the Muslim do not quarrel with each other Yes, we do—to our infinite shame and disgrace The colossal waste of Indian life lies in our power that has been misused and our love that has not been given. We, both Hindus and Muslims, boast of an ancient heritage which has failed to build for us a living present. The Hindus are awakening while the Muslims, in a larger proportion, are still in slumber

But India of to day is not a Hindu India or a Muslim India. It is essentially the whole India of the Hindus and the Muslims (and other minorities, of course).

It is the India of Muslim democracy and Hindu philosophy. It is the India of Muslim art and Hindu science. It is the India of Hindu astrology and Muslim algebra. It is the India of Hindu translations of Muslim Koran and Muslim translation of Hindu Ramayana. It is the India of Hindu generals of Muslim rulers It is the India of Muslim Dewan (minister) of Hindu Maharaja. It is the India of Hindu blacksmiths and Muslim 'zola' (weavers), the Hindu Banyas (traders), and Muslim *syots*. It is the India of Hindu professors of Muslim students—it is the India of Muslim mechanics of the Hindu workshop. It is the Hindu and Muslim India engrafted—one and indivisible.

CHURCHILL'S POLICY IN INDIA

"It is time for America to break away from the Imperial designs of Mr. Churchill and the Soviet drive for power of M. Stalin", writes Senator Robert M. Lafollette of Wisconsin in the current issue of *The Progressive*.

Calling on President Roosevelt and Mr. Dewey to put an end to "the conspiracy of silence on vital issues of American foreign policy", the Senator in a signed editorial declares. "In India we are being blamed along with the Soviets—all because we meekly acquiesced in the nationalistic plans of our aggressive associates in the war. In spite of all talk about 'co operation in a world organisation, the Soviets have made it clear that we are not to 'interfere' with what they regard as dominantly Russian problems in Europe. The British have made it just as clear that we are not to 'meddle' in the affairs of their Empire. When we offered our good offices to help mediate in the Russo-Polish dispute, we were told in diplomatic language to mind our own business.

"When our envoy to India reported the urgent need for a more decent British attitude towards India, the British not only clamped down severe censorship but forced the removal of that man, Mr. William Phillips, from the post to which he had only latterly been appointed in France."

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, G T., Madras.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

INDUSTRIAL SPURT IN HYDERABAD

An ambitious plan involving an initial cost of Rs 20 crores, to raise a new industrial city which may become the future Manchester of India, and an irrigation scheme which will cultivate a vast area in the Godavari area, which is apparently not fertile just now, -it is understood, has been drafted by Colonel L W. Slaughter, General Manager, Nizam's State Railway, and is under consideration of the Government of the Nizam

Harnessing of waterfalls and the exploitation of natural coal deposits are two important features of the scheme It is said that with the development of this area, great openings for other industrial schemes are likely to occur .

When the scheme is developed this industrial area will be worth over Rs 100 crores Nawab Zain Yar Jung has also contributed to this development plan Nawab Ali Nawaz Jung Bahadur s talents have been taken advantage of in drafting the electrical side of the scheme The Finance Member of the Nizam's Govern ment recently stated that the scheme deserved very careful consideration of Government

COLLECTION OF RARE MANUSCRIPTS

The Osmania University has acquired a unique collection of manuscripts, which had been in the possession of the late Hakeem Mohamed Qasim The collection consists of three thousand palm leaf and paper manuscripts dealing with all branches of Hindu learning 220 of these deal with Vedic literature and 905 with the six systems of Indian philosophy The rest consist of treatises on the Puranas dharmasastra, music medicine, astronomy, astrology and lexicography

It is noteworthy that the greater part of the works in Telugu found in this collection, are by poets and writers of the Telingana area in H E H the Nizam s Dominions Two unique manus cripts supposed to be in Brahmi character found in this collection are believed to belong to a period earlier than 300 B C

Mysore

THE DEFENCE SERVICES

The Government of Mysore have sanctioned the extension of recruiting for the Indian Army and the R I N in Mysore State A recruiting office has been opened in Mysore City and eventually sub offices will be established in all district headquarters starting with Kolar Kadur and Shimoga Facilities for recruitment already exist in Bangalore at the Offices of the Assistant Recruiting Officer Cornwallis Barracks, near Trinity Church

The State of Mysore has already made large contributions to the war effort, both in materials and men for the technical branches of the services and this extension of recruitment opens up a wide range of choice for fit young men who wish to offer their services

LOANS TO EDUCATED UNEMPLOYED

In June 1943, on the recommendation of the Director and the Board of Industries and Commerce Government sanctioned a scheme for the grant of small advances to educated young men in the State with a view to encouraging them to develop industries of their own or to set themselves up in business or trade Rules have now been framed to regulate the grant of such loans

Grants will be given for the purchase of technical equipment, including the cost of erection, for enabling the recipients to tide over the stages of manufacture on a com mercial scale, for helping them to meet losses in the early stages of production, for working capital in special cases, and for other similar purposes depending on the circumstances of each case

Grants will not ordinarily exceed Rs 1,000 and will in no case exceed Rs 2 000 without the special sanction of Government Half the amount advanced will be treated as a subsidy to the grantee, the balance being treated as a loan, free of interest, and repay able in equal monthly instalments spread over a period not exceeding five years and the payment of the first instalment com mencing after 18 months from the date of the grant of the loan.

Baroda

W. I. BARODA AND GUJARAT STATES

It is announced that, with effect from the November 5, 1944, the Western Indian States and the Baroda and Gujarat States agencies will be amalgamated.

Lieut.-Col. C. P. Hancock has been appointed as President of this combined agency and will be designated "resident at Baroda and for the States of Western India and Gujarat".

THE KALABHAVAN

The central technical institute known as the Kalabhavan was established in 1890. The work of the institution is divided into nine different departments of study, each under a qualified head. The workshop attached to the institution is run on semi-commercial lines The institute offers diploma and certificate courses. Instruction in diploma course is given in English, while in the certificate course it is given in Gujarati.

The number of Baroda State students studying in the Kalabhavan has steadily risen from 20 per cent in 1919 to 65 per cent. in 1938 39 and 67 per cent. in 1940 41.

THE CENTRAL LIBRARY

The department is organised into two sections,

(i) the Central Library for the Baroda City, and

(ii) the district library branch, including the travelling libraries, for the rest of the State.

The Central Library is a lending as well as a reference library. It has a complete collection of Gujarati books and the collection of Marathi books is nearing completion. The total number of books in the library was 1,88,959 of which 4,812 were added during the year. Of these, 45,213 were Gujarati, 33,761 Marathi and 58,827 English During the year 128,129 books were circulated as against 136,781 in the preceding year. The number of readers was 4,585 as against 4,819 in the previous year.

Travancore

AIMS OF UNIVERSITY EDUCATION

The aims and ideals of the Travancore University in relation to the general programme of primary and secondary education were set forth by Sachivottama Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan-President, speaking on the demand for education (Government grant to the Travancore University) in the Sri Chitra State Council on September 11.

It was the duty of the Government sooner rather than later to make primary Education-free and compulsory throughout the State . . . The secondary course would be very carefully devised to meet more demands than were now kept in view. It will be the object of the Government to equip the students for after life and career.

In other words, "the University course will be restricted only to those people who were by mental equipment, by financial resources and otherwise fitted to go on to higher studies". It should not be understood that only the rich or the financially solvent young persons would be able to go through the University courses. It would be the object of the Government to institute a very widely extended scheme of fellowships and scholarships that no person who could take to the University course would be disabled merely for want of resources.

TRAVANCORE'S POLITICAL STATUS

Indicating in clear terms the historical background of the relations, treaties and otherwise, subsisting between Indian States and the Paramount Power, Sir C. P Ramaswami Aiyar, Vice Chancellor of the University of Travancore, repudiated the theory expounded by writers like Prof. Edward Thompson and others of his school of thought, both in India and abroad, that Indian States were mere creations of the Paramount Power and as such could lay claim to no special rights or privileges. The occasion was the address delivered by the Vice-Chancellor inaugurating a course of ten lectures by Prof. Rangacharya, of the University College, Trivandrum, on "Travancore through the ages."

Kashmir

BUDGET PLANNING

His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir has decided to appoint a Committee to plan the budget of the State for a period of five years In order to ensure the continuity of progress says H H the Maharaja in an order issued recently we must frame a planned budget for a period of years in the first instance five to cover the entire activities of the State during the period The Prime Minister is the Chairman of the Committee The three other official members of the Committee nominated by the Maharaja are the Minister in waiting the Financial Adviser and the Accountant General The State Assembly is allowed four non official members recently elected Pandit Sh vnarain Fotedar Sardar Dhran Singh Mian Ahmadyar Khan and Sheikh Mohdamin

Bikaner

FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A five year programme of general development of the Bikaner State costing Rs two crores has been initiated by the Maharaja Describing the main features of this programme Mr K M Panikkar Prime Minister said that in order to carry it out a Development Department had been created under an expert development commissioner and had already begun to yield results especially in relation to sheep breeding and improvement of the quality of the famous Bikaner wool Town planning education and development of communications are also included in the plan

Indore

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS

In the budget proposals of the Indore State for the year 1944 45 the salary of primary school teachers hitherto getting Rs 15 or Rs 18 per month has been fixed at Rs 22 exclusive of dearness allowance

Phaltan

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

The Raja of Phaltan has introduced full Responsible Government in his State The Legislative Council of Phaltan under the new constitution held its session recently

Aundh was the first Deccan State to introduce reforms

Major Raja Shrimant Malojirao Madhojirao *alias* Raosaheb Bhave is the Raja of Phaltan State which has an area of 397 square miles the annual revenue being about Rs 15½ lakhs The population according to the last census is 71 478

Rao Bahadur Godbole Dewan of the Phaltan State read out in the State Assembly messages from leading personalities warmly congratulating the Raja Saheb on the introduction of responsible government in the State

Bharatpur

A FRESH CONSTITUTIONAL ADVANCE

His Highness the Maharaja has issued a proclamation limiting his Civil List to 10 per cent of the average ordinary revenue of the State This is a fresh lead in constitutional advance in Indian States Till now no Ruler has taken his people into confidence and announced to them the limitations he has placed on his own purse Coming from the historic dynasty of Bharatpur this augurs well for the future constitutional position of Indian princes

Cochin

COCHIN NURSES NOT TO MARRY

In the interests of the medical service the Cochin Government has passed an order prohibiting nurses to marry

The Government so far has been permitting nurses to marry and continue in their profession but the relaxation of such restrictions resulted impairing the efficiency of the nursing services

COCHIN S NEW CHIEF JUSTICE

Mr K S Krishnaswami Iyengar retired Judge Madras High Court has been appointed to succeed Mr C A Kunjunni Raja as Chief Justice Cochin High Court

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

NATAL ORDINANCE

The Natal Indian Congress has rejected the proposed Residential Property Regulation Ordinance on the ground that it is in conflict with the Pretoria Agreement.

Commenting on the rejection by the Natal Congress the *Natal Witness* says

The rejection is not altogether surprising. The Ordinance contains clauses which, in the prevalent conditions of European feeling in Natal, are almost sure to be used to prevent Indians from acquiring residential properties except in certain limited areas This is a grave matter and in many states of the past it has been a characteristic badge of the alien and slave. Indians in Natal no longer feel themselves aliens and they are commendably determined not to feel themselves slaves

Ceylon

INDIANS IN CEYLON

Mr. A. Aziz, President of the Ceylon Indian Congress, in a statement on the negotiations in progress by the Committee appointed by the Ceylon Legislature, says it has been proposed that Indians should accept the present franchise qualifications. It would be a negation of the struggle of 13 years, if this qualification against which we have carried on such a struggle were accepted, particularly when the question of status is still hanging in the balance and remains unsettled. When people with an income of Rs. 50 per month irrespective of their period of residence can qualify for franchise, subject to the general condition of six months' residence it is beyond our comprehension why a poor labourer should not have his vote for the same residence when there is adult franchise for workers of all other communities in the island. The Ceylon Indian Congress therefore asked at its last sessions held in April, 1944, that for all Indians who are now in the island adult franchise should be given. For those who come in the future, it is for the Government of India and the Government of Ceylon to negotiate.

Burma

RIGHTS IN LIBERATED BURMA

A special motion urging that the rights of Indians should be safeguarded in every reasonable way in re-conquered Burma was passed in the Bengal Legislative Council last month.

The motion requested His Excellency the Governor of Bengal to make an immediate representation to the Government of India on behalf of the people of Bengal who are vitally interested in the future of re-conquered Burma, to safeguard the rights of Indians in re conquered Burma in all reasonable ways, including the right of free entry into Burma by Indians in future whether they were evacuees from Burma or not, restoration of all lost properties to Indians on their return with proper compensation, and also to secure for Indians the same rights and privileges as would be enjoyed by the subjects of the United Kingdom in Burma.

In commending his motion to the acceptance of the House, Mr. Nur Ahmed (Ministerialist Party), said that it might be asked why he had tabled this motion now when nine tenths of Burma remained to be re conquered. He explained that a sub committee of the Government of India was considering this matter with the Government of Burma. It was, therefore, desirable that the people of Bengal should place their views before the Government of India so that Indian rights were safeguarded in re conquered Burma.

Europe

THE FAMOUS TENTH DIVISION

The Tenth Indian Division is fighting in Italy alongside the famous Fourth and Eighth Divisions. The "Tenth" has fought in four vital campaigns—the revolt in Iraq, the ousting of Vichy influence from Syria, the four day blitz in Iran, the great defence in the Western Desert during Rommel's last push—and now it is engaged in a fifth great campaign in Europe.

Questions of Importance

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COMMONWEALTH PARTY AND INDIA

The Commonwealth Party (Independent Left Wing Party founded by Sir Richard Acland) has issued the following statement on policy of the party on India

If as the British Government insists there is no practical difference between Dominion Status and National Independence we are allowing sentiment to conquer sense in refusing to allow independence to Indians To withhold it until all differences of minorities have been resolved is equivalent to a direct refusal

The Commonwealth Party believes

Firstly all political prisoners should be released and elected legislative assemblies in the Provinces re established Secondly power should be transferred to a Government either composed of the 11 elected Prime Ministers of the Provinces of India or formed by an Indian leader such as Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru Mr Rajagopalachari Mr Jinnah or Mr Jawaharlal Nehru Britain should make a treaty with this Government as a free ally, making necessary arrangements for control of the armed forces in India

SOLUTION OF THE DEADLOCK

'It seems clear that the deadlock in India will remain unless and until the British Government in conjunction with the Government of India takes the initiative in seeking to bring about a settlement and I suggest therefore the adoption of the following steps' writes Mr J P. Eddy former Judge of the Madras High Court in the *Times*

Release of at least such of the imprisoned Congress leaders as are prepared to follow Mr Gandhi's example and enter into consultation on the constitutional issue

'Issue of a new White Paper containing revised proposals of the British Government for a settlement and dealing particularly with the cardinal question of the partition of India and

'Setting up of a Round Table Conference in India representing all the various interests concerned to explore the possibilities of a settlement in the light of such revised proposals without waiting for the end of hostilities

I am not sufficiently optimistic about the prospects of a settlement to think that this Round Table Conference would achieve unanimity I therefore suggest that all matters upon which it is unable to reach agreement should be referred by consent to a commission of five—representatives of Great Britain Hindus Muslims and two members nominated by the Prime Ministers of the Dominions—whose recommendations would be binding"

DR SYED MAHMUD'S REVELATIONS

The circumstances leading to his release from detention are set out by Dr Syed Mahmud formerly Member of the Congress Working Committee in a statement to the press His release followed a letter which he wrote to His Excellency the Viceroy I made it clear in my letter" says Dr Syed Mahmud that I was not writing to get my release but my object was something higher and different My unsolicited and humble advice to His Excellency was to try to settle the Indian question in the lifetime of Gandhiji

Dr Syed Mahmud adds

However, I frankly admit I was guilty of gross impropriety towards my colleagues in Ahmednagar without whose knowledge and consent I sent that letter to the Viceroy The public should also realise that with my resignation from the Working Committee to which I have alluded in my letter to the Viceroy I did not in any way compromise the Committee or the cause

Mahatma Gandhi in a statement on Dr Syed Mahmud's correspondence with the Viceroy says

Congressmen should read without passion Dr Mahmud's letters to the Viceroy and his statement to the Press releasing those letters The motive in writing the letter was undoubtedly pure The practical question for Congressmen is whether they are to make use of Dr Mahmud's services or ostracise him for the 'impropriety he admits having committed I have no doubt that they should make the best use possible of the services for which his long and unbroken connection with the Congress makes him eminently fit

Utterances of the Day

DR. R. K. MUKERJI'S ALTERNATIVE TO PAKISTAN

Dr. Radhakumud Mukerji in his presidential address to the Akhand Hindustan Conference, at New Delhi, on October 7, gave a detailed exposition of the Hindu stand against Pakistan and indicated an alternative based on the U.S.S.R constitution and on the assumption that 'all Indians owe it to their country to maintain India's integrity."

There are several alternatives to Pakistan, which the Muslim League may very well explore and examine, considering that Pakistan has already been in action in all the four Muslim majority provinces

These alternatives are based on the assumption that all Indians owe it to their country to maintain its integrity There are ways and means by which the largest measure of provincial autonomy can be made compatible with some kind of federal control Subject to that control, the units of the federation may function as sovereign states within their prescribed spheres This may be effected by so framing the schedules of federal and provincial subjects as to make the most of provincial autonomy, and to render each province a sovereign state for all practical purposes

Then again within the domain of each such provincial sovereignty every community is to be given complete cultural autonomy, on the lines of the scheme which was so elaborately worked out by the League of Nations and embodied later in international instruments known as Minorities Guarantee Treaties, and is now in actual operation in the U S S R

The distribution of federal and provincial subjects for the Indian federation may follow the lines laid down in the U S S R constitution Indeed the schedule of federal subjects as framed by the U.S S R. should have its own lessons for those who stand up for the integrity of India and against its partition into several federations, when a multi national state like the U S S R. has been able to think, plan and function in terms of a single federation on the basis of a scientific synthesis and harmonious combination of the principle of centralisation and that of local autonomy

It is always easy to plan an Indian Union which, as Lord Wavell pointed out in his speech before the Central Legislature, should be entrusted with the administration of subjects on common concern to its constituent states, such as defence, military, foreign policy and many internal and external economic problems which may be taken to be communications, customs, currency, monetary policy, tariff policy or trade agreements.

It has already been stated that centralisation and federalism have developed so far in the U S S R that the centre has reserved to itself even the power to approve of the taxes and revenue which go to form the local budgets of all the constituent states of the Union.

SIR C. P. ON STATES' ATTITUDE

Speaking at the Bombay Branch of the Indian Council of World Affairs, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, Dewan of Travancore, emphasised that gererally speaking, Indian States were perfectly willing, and indeed anxious, to come into a scheme where, along with their autonomy in internal affairs, a central authority and central guidance were recognised and implemented.

He repeated the statement he made in January, 1943, that,

if any Indian State, while asserting its right to internal autonomy, is irresponsible to national tendencies or not working in harmony with national policy elsewhere in India that State does not deserve to live

The reason why many Indian States objected to Pakistan and similar schemes was that they had learnt by experience, especially in recent months that in matters of all India concern, including customs, tariffs, communications, the procurement and distribution of food and many other matters, it was necessary to have a co-ordinated plan emanating from a central authority

In the future constitution of India, it was essential to keep such a central authority.

There was no question of paramountcy of British India, over the States.

SIR PURUSHOTTAMDAS ON BOMBAY PLAN

Sir Purushottamdas Thakurdas, one of the authors of the Bombay Plan, answered criticism against the Plan, addressing the Madras Rotary Club at the Connemara on October 9.

"The trite criticism of our Plan", he said, "has been that we attach second preference to agricultural development and concentrate on the industrial development of India. Nothing can be farther than our intention. But India has perforce to be self-contained and how is this to be achieved without manufacturing in India —especially when India has raw materials and demand for manufactured articles within her borders ready? This, in short, is the fundamental reason for developing India industrially."

INDIAN CHRISTIANS MOVE

The suggestion to call a Round Table Conference of representatives of all important communities in India for solving the constitutional deadlock was made by the Punjab Christians' Association Conference which met at Lahore on October 7 One hundred and twenty delegates from all over the Province, including some ladies, attended the Conference

The main resolution stated

While expressing deep regret at the break down of the Gandhi Jinnah negotiations this Conference feels thankful for the ray of hope in so far as the two leaders have parted as friends

This Conference requests Raja Sir Maharaj Singh President in Chief of the Indian Christian Association to take such steps as he may consider necessary to convene a non official Round Table Conference of representatives of all important communities and interests to evolve a suitable formula for the solution of the important constitutional problems with which the country is faced

Dewan Bahadur S P Singha MLA (Unionist) President of the Conference said

There can be no solution of the political deadlock unless the British give us freedom It is about time the British Parliament fixed a definite date on which India will get her independence If by the specified date Indians fail to present an agreed constitution, the British Government should then give a constitution of its own choosing to India and set her free

AKALI CONFERENCE

The All India Akali Conference at Lahore rejected the Rajaji Gandhi formula and asked the Sikhs to carry on a ceaseless agitation against the scheme until it is finally dropped

The Conference asked the British Parliament immediately to transfer power to the Indian people and called upon the Government of India forthwith to release all political prisoners and detenus unconditionally

The Conference unanimously passed a resolution moved by Master Tara Singh expressing the opinion that the last eight years working of provincial autonomy in the Punjab has adversely affected vital Sikh interests in the economic political religious and cultural spheres The Sikh masses feel very keenly that they have been sacrificed at the altar of political expediency to appease the Muslims '

The Conference passed the following resolution

This Conference declares unflinching faith in the oneness and integrity of India and places on record its firm conviction that the partition of India will be fatal to the best interests of the country as a whole and to those of every community of India and it earnestly appeals to all patriotic Indians to resist by all available means any attempt to break the integrity of India as a nation and as a state on any grounds whatsoever

Moving the resolution, Dr Moonji said Hindusthan is the land of the Hindus and Sikhs Muslims and Christians" The Working Committee has appointed a committee to study the draft constitution for Hindusthan Free State prepared by the Gokhale Committee of Poona and submit a report on it to the Working Committee

HUNTINGDON S SCHEME FOR INDIA

The Earl of Huntingdon commenting on Lord Linlithgow's Edinburgh speech, told the United Press of America

I think that most of the people, who have studied India s problem and its future will agree with Lord Linlithgow when he says Whatever changes may take place in the future structure of the Government of India it is clear that some authority will have to conduct the business of foreign affairs and I myself am unable to conceive how that vital function could be discharged under any system of the Government which could not provide India with a single and unified Government at the Centre The difficulty is how to arrive at this state of affairs in view of the monarchical form of Government in the Princes States the desire of certain minorities to form separate States the mutual distrust existing between the British Government in India and nationalist parties and the illiteracy among the large part of the Indian population

I would suggest that Indians of all parties who wish for Indian independence should unite in demanding that Indian independence should be guaranteed within a certain number of years by a council of all the United Nations If the British Government agreed to this, all doubts of British intentions would be removed and the way would lie open to the formation of a Government of all parties under the Viceroy s guidance This Government could gradually assume more and more control and responsibility, and allay some of the mistrust and antagonism between different groups and eventually work out a satisfactory constitution

Many nationalist Indians may think that this would be too slow I suggest that in this way Indian independence would immediately be secured and without the chaos envisaged by Lord Linlithgow

Educational

AMERICAN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR INDIANS

Dr. J. M. Kumarappa, Director and Professor of Social Economy at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, who has been invited to tour America as the guest of the State Department, told a Press Conference, in Bombay, that his tour would be undertaken not only to study the workings of social institutions in America and apply them to India but also to explore possibilities of more Indian students making use of American scholarships.

Dr. Kumarappa said that his tour would result in an expansion of the Tata Institute and also in the introduction of new departments of study especially in research and social work.

The scheme visualised possibilities of exchanging professors from American Universities, establishing fellowships and scholarships for Indian students in American Universities and also setting up of an American Scholarships Bureau in India

SAROJINI'S MESSAGE TO STUDENTS

The following is the text of Mrs Sarojini Naidu's Divali message received by one of the leading student workers of Bombay.

"Does it matter if the lamps be of gold or of clay—it is the flame that counts. That sheds radiance upon the darkness of the world.

"And so, I look to each member of your generation whether richly gifted or less abundantly equipped with talent to kindle the flame and keep it undimmed and unweakening even in the midst of the most challenging of storms Only so, will there be a real illumination in the world. I salute you, young messengers of the free world's future. Keep your lamps alight".

LANGUAGE OF THE CONQUEROR

Mr. Eamon de Valera, Prime Minister of Eire, told a meeting organised to promote the revival of the Irish language that, so long as Irishmen spoke English, they were speaking the language that had been imposed on them, the language of those who wanted to "conquer this country and who have, to a certain extent, succeeded. If we continue to speak English, we will be speaking the language of the conqueror".

C. R.'s ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Addressing the students of the Loyola College, Madras, on October 12, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari warned the students against developing a frame of mind which made them feel that they knew everything there was to know in politics. The "most dangerous weakness" of young men and women was to think that the opinion of other people was their own opinion. It only required them to hear the expression of an opinion once or twice to make them think that it was a "substantiated doctrine". Thus slogan mongers began to shape the minds of boys instead of schoolmasters. Therefore, his chief desire on the present occasion was to warn them "against being deceived, against hastily taking any opinion or any statement which they had not examined properly".

In this connection, Mr. Rajagopalachari referred to the activities of the two students' organisations, the National Students' Organisation and the Madras Students' Organisation and said that it was not good to have two rival organisations pulling them, who were so gullible or so impressionable—if they did not like the expression gullible—in different directions with various intensity, with vague doctrines consisting of words and words, and of nothing they understood. They went round and round and became hysterical. His advice was that they should mix with everybody, but should not become their victims. "Understand what they say, ask questions, examine what they say, take what you think is right and reject what you think is wrong".

EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION

D. W. Joshi, Hon Secretary, Maharashtra Library Association, writes that while before the war Great Britain was spending on education the equivalent of Rs. 33-2 per head, in India the average expenditure on education in 1938 39 was As. 8 9 per head. He commends the Sargent scheme of national education which should be *made compulsory*, and regards it as an essential pre-requisite to the establishment of self-government. From the money and personnel required, it is obvious that the post-war educational scheme will be of gigantic dimensions.

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DETENTION, IMPROPER AND ILLEGAL

Ordering the immediate release of Messrs P Y Deshpande editor *Bhartatavya* and Y V Lele of Mahila Ashram Wardha, Mr Justice Bore and Mr Justice Sen of Nagpur High Court held that the detention was improper and illegal

In the course of the order Their Lordships remarked ' The reason stated for the arrest of Deshpande and Lele is that the officer arresting reasonably suspects them of having acted or acting or of being about to act in a manner prejudicial to the efficient prosecution of the war There is no reference of any reasonable suspicion that these persons acted in a manner prejudicial to the public safety

In this particular case we have not even a *prima facie* guarantee that there is a reasonable suspicion The alternative terms in which the order is couched shows that the police officer making the arrest did not know his own mind He did not know what he suspected and floundered about in his order from one alternative to another That will certainly not satisfy the contention of resonable suspicion which Rule 129 requires

HIGH COURT ALLOWS MANDAMUS

Mr Justice Chandrasekhara Aiyar has allowed the application filed by Mr. N Kuppuswami Iyengar member of the Madras University Senate for a writ of *mandamus* directing the Vice Chancellor and the Registrar of the University to include certain resolutions given notice of by him in the agenda for the meeting of the Senate on October 27 His Lordship held that the Vice Chancellor had no power under the law as it stood to disallow the resolutions

The application was made under Section 45 of the Specific Relief Act

ORDER ON SAROJINI WITHDRAWN

The Government of India have withdrawn the order served on Mr Sarojini Naidu prohibiting her from communicating to the press as being no longer necessary

AN AMAZING ORDER

The District Magistrate of Allahabad served an amazing order on the editors of the three Allahabad dailies the *Leader* the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* and the *Bharat* The order was subsequently withdrawn but as the issues involved remain unaffected by the recantation the conduct of the Allahabad authorities is a matter for serious consideration says the *Hindustan Times* The order reads

Under the powers delegated to me by notification No 6468 ch dated 22nd December 1941 I hereby order under Rule 41 of the D I R for the efficient prosecution of war that the printer publisher and editor of the newspaper of Allahabad shall submit for scrutiny all matter printed in the newspaper at Allahabad before publication to Mr S S Roberts Sub Inspector of Police Allahabad —Sd K R Malcolm District Magistrate Allahabad

There is no suggestion in the order that the paper had offended the law in any way or that there was any apprehension that it would so offend In fact no reason whatever was given for this peremptory and all pervasive order other than the repetition of the phrase for the efficient prosecution of the war '

SIR JOHN BEAUMONT FOR P C

Sir John Beaumont former Chief Justice of the High Court of Bombay, has become Privy Councillor and appointed Member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in place of Sir George Claude Rankin who resigned owing to ill health states an official announcement

NO RELEASE OF PRISONERS

Mr Amery told the Commons on October 5 that he could not see any reason for releasing Pandit Nehru and others who had made no response to the Viceroy s invitation of last February to abandon the policy of non co operation and obstruction

JUSTICE SHIVA PRASAD SINHA

H M the King has appointed the Hon Mr Justice Shiva Prasad Sinha to be a Judge of the High Court of Allahabad upon the retirement of the Hon Mr Justice Shiam Krishna Dar

Insurance

BRITISH INSURANCE BILL

The Government of India Bill which, with over 400 clauses, holds the record as the biggest single measure upon the British statute book is likely to lose this distinction when the new social security legislation is approved by Parliament, says *Reuter's* Political Correspondent.

"I understand that the Bill incorporating a great range of cradle to grave benefits for every person in Britain will exceed in length any previous Act of Parliament. As its terms must be clearly understood by every citizen, the Bill may set a new standard of simpler legal phraseology. Those concerned with the drafting of the measure, I am informed, consider the question of simplification an important part of their task"

Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister for Labour, moving the second reading of the Unemployment Insurance Bill, which increases the unemployment benefit for those displaced during the transition from war to peace, told the Commons recently that he did not believe unemployment would rise above the average of 8 per cent. Government took the view that the transition would cause not more than small areas of temporary unemployment.

BILL TO AMEND INSURANCE ACT

A 13 Clause Bill further to amend the Indian Insurance Act is published in a *Gazette of India* Extraordinary. The object is stated to be to remove flaws and lacunæ brought to light in the administration of the Act since it was substantially amended in 1941. The Bill is also intended to secure the greater financial stability of insurance companies.

Explaining the proposed amendment relating to registration, it is pointed out that complaints have been received of tardy settlement of claims even when claims have been supported by a final judgment of the Courts The amendments proposed are intended to enable registration to be cancelled for such delays, revival being contemplated where the Superintendent of Insurance is satisfied that due claims have been honoured.

As regards deposits, it is explained that l mutual arrangements with certain India States, deposits made under this Act hav been accepted as cover in the State, an *vice versa*. It is a corollary of this arrang ment that deposits in one place shoul not be returned without the agreement the insurance authorities of the othe Negotiations for complementary legislatio in the States concerned are stated to b in progress.

Other clauses of the Bill are intended t make it clear that life insurance fund shoul be invested and kept apart from the othe assets of insurance and to provide that person carrying on life insurance busines shall not be entitled to embark on othe classes of business unless the Superin tendent of Insurance is satisfied that th life insurance fund is adequate for it intended purpose.

INSURANCE AND GOVT. SECURITIES

The decision of the Executive Committe of Labour, Industry and Commerce i Ceylon requiring insurance companie operating in the Island to invest in Ceylo Government securities to the extent o 50 per cent. of renewal premiums receive from their policy holders is said to hav already found an appreciable response, good lead being given by some of th insurance companies floated locally.

In the event of the scheme for th investment of renewal premium incom in Government securities being fully developed so as to achieve the maximum possible results it is pointed out tha such investments in the aggregate woul provide the best guarantee to policy holders themselves as well as to th companies of an assured return.

In view of the availability of ampl local Government securities for purposes of investment, the authorities anticipate even more active interest than now on the part of insurance companies in increasing their security investments on the terms offered by the Government to the maximum possible extent.

There are said to be nearly 150 foreign companies, including Indian, doing life insurance business in Ceylon.

Trade and Finance

INDIA AND INTERNATIONAL FUND

The rejection of the Indian delegation s request especially in connection with Sterling Balances need not depress India unduly The assurance given by Lord Keynes the leader of the British delegation is quite clear and unambiguous and should serve to give the quietus to fears suspicions and doubts said Sir Chintaman Deshmukh Governor of the Reserve Bank of India one of the Indian delegates to the Monetary Conference addressing a meeting of the Rotary Club in Bombay last month

He added Instead of devoting too much attention to our possible attitude to the prospective International Monetary Fund and the Bank it would be more helpful if we devoted serious thought to what measures will be necessary to enable us to receive the payments that Britain might be in a position to make from time to time in the form of goods In other words we ought to get busy with our development planning and consider what sort of controls and exchange rates will be appropriate to the circumstances of the case the objective being the establishment of a suitable surplus of imports from the United Kingdom over exports representing the repayment of our Sterling Balances

After stating that the Indian Delegation had been successful in getting included in the scheme of the International Monetary Fund and the Bank a provision that regard should be had to geographical distribution consistently with efficiency in the matter of recruitment for those institutions the speaker said that the next important matter we agitated for was that of a permanent seat and a suitable quota

Here it was clear from the beginning that we were up against a foregone conclusion not on any valid economic ground but for political reasons namely that the inclusion of two permanent members from the British Empire might be misunderstood by the American public In an indirect way the validity of our claim was recognised in that we were given a quota sufficiently large to ensure a seat for us in every election

INDIAN BUSINESS MISSION

The Government of India have invited a group of Indian industralists and businessmen to visit England and America as soon as exigencies permit with the object of studying the present industrial organisation of these countries the technical advances made by them during the last few years and their post war industrial plans says a press note

The Mission will be unofficial in character and its members all Indians of independent views and position will be free to arrange their programme and discuss any matter unfettered by terms of reference or any form of control by Government They will be accompanied by their own technical advisers and will bear their own expenses throughout the trip

Government will arrange facilities for them to visit industrial establishments and to contact leaders of industry

The members of the delegation will be Mr J R D Tata Mr G D Birla Mr Nalini Ranjan Sarker Sir Padampat Singhania Mr Krishnaraj Thackersey Seth Kasturbhai Lalbhai Sir Sultan Chinoy Mr M A Ishapani Mir Laik Ali and Mr A D Shroff

BUSINESS CONFERENCE

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has selected the following to represent India at the forthcoming International Business Conference to be held at Atlantic City on November 10

Delegates Sir Chunilal B Mehta Leader Mr G L Mehta Deputy Leader Messrs Satya Paul Virmani A R Siddique J C Mahendra David Erulkar

Advisers Dr P S Lokanathan Mr M D Akbar Fazalbhai Dr Jariwalla and Mr V M Bhatt Assistant Secretary of the Federation who will act as the Secretary of the Delegation

Mr J C Setalvad President of the Federation who was expected to lead the delegation could not leave for America on medical advice

The American Government have offered air transport priorities for the members of the delegation while the Government of India have agreed to offer all facilities in connection with the trip

Women's Page

WOMEN'S EDUCATION

"India will not keep herself abreast of other enlightened nations in the post-war world unless she is able to give her people, and the rising generation in particular, training for life and livelihood comparable with that which other nations are providing for theirs," declared Sir Jogendra Singh, while opening at Simla last month, the Teachers' Committee on Higher Education, appointed by the Central Advisory Board on Education.

The Committee is complementary to the Sargent Committee, which confined itself to the consideration of teachers at primary, middle, and high school stages.

Sir Jogendra Singh emphasised the need to accelerate the provision of education facilities for girls and women in view of the extent to which their claims have been ignored in the past. In higher stages women's training should be distinctive he said, and universities should set up special facilities with a view to ensuring the fullest possible scope for the development of what is the best in Indian women.

Sir Jogendra Singh further stated that the country needed a vast army of teachers, and education would inevitably depend upon the quality and availability of teachers. He regretted that great harm had been done to education by recruiting teachers on cheap salaries irrespective of their attainments. "If the teaching service is to secure an adequate supply of the right type of people, it must offer practical attractions comparable with those which other branches of Public Services offer to their members", he concluded.

Mrs. PANDIT'S ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Addressing a huge gathering of students and Professors at Allahabad at the christening ceremony of the wheat plant, 'Vijaya,' in the Physics Lecture Hall of the Allahabad University under the presidentship of Mr. Amarnath Jha, Vice-Chancellor of the University, Mrs. Vijalakshmi Pandit said:

You, students, will all be going out of the University soon and your thoughts will turn to man's livelihood. I would ask you to remember that there is to-day more distress in the world than ever before and more than ever is your help required. You must go out into the world and change men's hearts. You have to demand that human beings be given the right to live in peace—that they share the benefits which the world offers and that they build up harmony and prosperity and re-create a new earth. Only then will a solution be found for all our problems.

Mrs. Pandit proceeding, said:

To-day large parts of the world are faced with starvation and millions are dying in misery. The problem is not of more food being available but is rather one of better distribution. There is enough space in the world for all to live in; there is enough space in the world for all races of the Globe—but the greed of man triumphs over his scientific knowledge and while the earth is prosperous, human beings continue to starve. Science has progressed to such an extent that man to-day is the master of the earth and heavens. He has it in his power to give life and destroy—he can make the earth yield in greater abundance and he controls the elements and uses them for his purpose. But scientific knowledge has not achieved prosperity for the world—rather it is making the world barren. Improvement in the varieties of grain does not unfortunately mean prosperity for the people because there is no plan for distribution. There is no plan because certain interests control the food supply of the world and use it only to enrich themselves and not humanity. So we have the spectre of millions of millions starving when there is food for all. I had a small experience of this in Bengal when I saw that thousands of maunds of grains were lying rotting where close at hand—people died for want of food.

WOMEN AND THE DRAFT HINDU CODE

Asked about the attitude of the Women's Conference on the Draft Hindu Code, Srimati Kamaladevi, President, All-India Women's Conference, said that the Conference was broadly in favour of it, although it felt that the Code did not adequately meet all the demands of the Conference. Still, the Code was welcome, because it recognised certain principles and attempted to bring them into effect.

One of the welcome features was the uniformity of law which would be introduced (for Hindus) all over India. To those who stood for a National Code (applicable to all without distinction of creed or caste), the Draft Code would appear to be a definite step in the right direction. As such, it would be appreciated by all progressive organisations.

JOURNALISM IN INDIA

Sir C P Ramaswami Aiyar Dewan of Travancore in declaring open the Tanjore District Journalists Conference at Kumbakonam last month dwelt at length on the development of the Press in this country

Indian journalism he said had made vast strides during the last two decades It had maintained a high standard and had contributed to a lively alert and watchful public opinion It had been the index of popular feeling and it voiced public demands and exercised a dignified restraint not always copying the method of yellow journalism

Referring to the sanctity of private confidence which the Press was often asked to keep Sir Ramaswami Aiyar said that the Press could in all public matters transcend the demands of over sensitive public men on the theory that all public matters appertained to the public

Concluding Sir Ramaswami paid a tribute to the high ideals handed down by the pioneers of journalism in India

REUTERS NEWS AGENCY

The *New York Herald Tribune* in an editorial on The New Reuters says the news agency is advertising in America that it is now owned by the newspapers of Great Britain and is independent of Government control

Formerly Reuters was a private corporation Great sections of the world had come to depend on Reuters alone for news of events abroad this dependence was sealed by pacts for exclusive service and it was a striking fact that news delivered was almost invariably of a sort which served the purposes of British diplomacy British achievements were exalted and British mistakes understated or omitted News drawn from America presented a picture of an uncouth nation led by eccentrics and addicted to crimes of violence Reuters great weakness in the past was the subservience of its proprietor to the Foreign Office Perhaps the new management will behave differently

The fact that the agency is now controlled by newspapers offers no guarantee Newspapers of Britain as long as anyone can remember have with few exceptions been willing and eager servants of the imperial policy Reuters now has a chance to get out from under the Foreign Office and the Colonial Office but whether they will do so is a question the future will answer

ROMMEL

The German News Agency reported on October 15 that General Field Marshal Rommel had died as the result of severe injuries to his head which he received in a motor car accident while Commander in Chief of the army group in the West Hitler ordered a State funeral

With the passing away of Field Marshal Erich von Rommel Germany has lost one of her most brilliant generals Little was known of him before the invasion of France but in 1940 he came into prominence by the part he played in the break through at Sedan Later he was sent to North Africa to arrest the progress of the victorious Allies Rommel managed to roll the tide back and reached El Alamein 40 miles from Alexandria Though he was confident of success General Montgomery defeated him and he was forced to fight a series of delaying actions and withdrew his troops to Tunisia

DR. J M KUMARAPPA

Dr J M Kumarappa Director and Professor of Social Economy at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences Bombay has been invited by the American State Department to be its guest during a tour of the United States

Dr Kumarappa is the first Indian to be invited under the U S State Department's new programme of international cultural co operation He will visit some of the American Colleges and universities institutions for the mentally deficient for crippled children for deaf and dumb courts for juveniles and domestic relations cases modern institutions for correcting juvenile delinquents women and girls and advanced prison farms

NATIONAL PRIZE FOR SIR C V RAMAN

Sir C V Raman is this year's recipient of the National Prize endowed by Sir C R Reddy Vice Chancellor of the Andhra University Sir Raman has accepted the award The prize which is of the annual value of Rs 1 116 is awarded from funds built up by Sir C R Reddy by donations of half of his monthly salary over a period of years

Medical

SHORTAGE OF HOSPITALS IN INDIA

There is only one doctor for every 9,000 persons in India against one for every 700 in Britain, said Canon F. A. Cockin, Chaplain to the King, broadcasting an appeal recently on behalf of the Christian Medical Missions in India. In India, 90 per cent. of the people lived in the villages but 90 per cent of doctors practised in towns, he said. Consequently the rural maternity death rate was five times higher than in Britain and the death rate among children compared even more gravely Mission hospitals had, therefore, set themselves to meet the need where it was greatest, namely, in the villages.

IMPORTANCE OF ORTHOPAEDICS

The Medical Council of India passed a resolution, at its annual session at New Delhi on October 14, urging that there should be in every medical college, a teacher specially qualified to deal with Orthopaedics (the science of curing deformities, and surgery leading to this), and that there should be a special orthopaedic clinic attached to each hospital.

The Council recommended that the Membership examination conducted by the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Bombay, be recognised and the qualifications of M C P.S. (Bombay) be included in the First Schedule to the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933.

RADIO LOCATION TO HELP THE BLIND

One day the blind man will be able to throw away his white stick. He will carry instead a radio location box by which he will be able to "see" obstacles in his path. "The first experiment has proved a success," said Sir Ian Fraser, Chairman of St. Dunstan's, according to a report in the *News Chronicle*.

In the London laboratory of Captain H. G. Round, acoustics consultant, and in the neighbouring streets Sir Ian has been walking with the first rough instrument on a tray. It consists of two pieces of electrical sound and light apparatus, weighing about 10 lbs. and set up on wooden boards. To it is connected a pair of earphones.

Health

SALTLESS DIET AND FRUIT JUICE

Diet is one of the most important weapons in the fight against high blood pressure. Dietary regulation will often go a long way, writes Dr. Edward Podsky in *New Health*:

The first rule to keep in mind is in regard to salt. Little or no salt should be added to the food after it comes to the table. As little water as possible should be used in cooking.

In addition to a practically saltless diet the sufferer from high blood pressure should take no stimulating foods, condiments, relishes or alcoholic drinks. Tea and coffee should be reduced to a minimum. The frequent use of orange and lemon juice is valuable in helping to furnish the necessary alkaline ash in the body and reducing the tendency to an excess acid ash, which is detrimental in all cases of high blood pressure. By a general addition of orange and lemon juice fluids may comfortably be cut down to two pints a day. This is most important, as excess water intake adds to the blood volume and helps to maintain increased arterial tension.

150—NORMAL SPAN OF LIFE

At the American Chemical Society which met recently, Theodore G. Klumpp, President of Winthrop Chemical Company, told delegates it was biologically possible for many of our children or our children's children to live in good health for 150 years and that attainment of such a goal would be found in medicinal chemistry. Urging that more time and money should be spent for research in medical science to solve every cause of death, every illness suffered by man or useful animals, he said the normal span of human life, on the basis of life in the animal kingdom should be from 125 to 150 years.

THREE MEALS A DAY FOR INDIAN SOLDIERS

Indian troops in the India Command are to be encouraged to take three meals a day, instead of two as at present. The change is intended to make use of the new basic ration scale, which will provide the extra meal. Medical opinion in the Army supports the change, which is expected to build up the physique of the new recruit as well as the trained man.

Currency and Banking

PROBLEM OF BANKING

Under the auspices of the South India Joint Stock Banks Association Madras a Conference of Banks was held on October 8 at the Indian Bank Buildings North Beach Road, Mr T T Krishnamachari presiding Representatives of a number of banks attended Mr Wajahat Hussain Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India was present

Welcoming the gathering Mr S Partha sarathi President of the Association referred to the financing of production of food and commercial crops and said this was the time for the authorities and statesmen to deal with the problem of financing agriculture

The Hon Mr M Ct M Chidambaram Chettiar declaring the Conference open welcomed the formation of an Association of Banks and said that the Association could prove very useful in safeguarding the interests of members and in evolving a code of uniform practice for all banks in South India Since the first Conference of Banks was held in 1939 sound methods of banking have been followed by an ever increasing number of the smaller banks and all of them have been alive to the necessity to maintain their assets in a thoroughly liquid condition

Mr T T Krishnamachari addressing the gathering said that there has been a phenomenal development of war time banking in India as evidenced by the enormous growth of deposits

He said that the smaller banks have made a vital contribution to the progress of banking in India and hoped that the Government in the process of regulating banking would not injure them Referring to the proposed Banking Bill he warned that it would leave a large field of unorganised money lenders free from its mischief and would only control joint stock institutions

He said that by way of complementary legislation Government should devise ways and means by which these banks would get the aid and assistance in times of need from the monetary agency the Reserve Bank of India

Railways

TRIBUTE TO INDIAN RAILWAYS

A tribute to Indian Railways work for the forces in this war of movement was paid by Major General G N Russell Deputy Quartermaster General in a broadcast talk

General Russell declared that Indian railways were now required to carry an enormous load of troops stores and indus trial products in addition to the normal peace time traffic The main problem was enormous distances carried—stores for the troops on the North Eastern Front travelled 800 miles on an average

General Russell referred to the railways own difficulties—smaller staff far more traffic much more difficult working condi tions due to the black out regulations and the constant need to try and push traffic through against time He mentioned that 20 trains were required to move the personnel of the division and a further 48 trains to move its vehicles guns and stores Quite frequently they had to make moves of this sort at very short notice

TRAVELLING COURTS AND LOCK UPS

Travelling courts and lock ups have been introduced on the Patna Gaya section of the E I R in furtherance of the drive against ticketless travelling on railways

The courts on wheels have commenced functioning and consist of a first class composite carriage with accommodation for two Magistrates who will hold their courts in the carriage while two third class carriages in each train have been improvised with prison fittings to serve the purpose of lock ups

The measure introduced on the Patna Gaya section is stated to be experimental and may be extended to other sections if found satisfactory

NEW GENERAL MANAGER OF M & S M RY

Mr C G W Cordon General Manager M and S M Railway who has availed himself of leave preparatory to retirement has handed over charge of his office to his successor Mr R de K Maynard

Art and Drama

PAINTINGS FROM SANTINIKETAN

"In art, as in most other things, there can be no advance without experiment, and experiment is always worthwhile and interesting", observed Sir Edward Benthall, War Transport Member, opening at New Delhi on October 18, an exhibition of paintings, sculpture and sketches by two artists from Santiniketan, Mr. Ram Kinker Baij and Mr. Benode Behari Mukherji.

Sir Edward, who is President of the Indian Society of Oriental Art at Calcutta, recalled that when he came to India at an impressionable age, he came under the influence of Poet Rabindranath Tagore and naturally took an interest in all that came out of Santiniketan. He thought that the Poet's pictures ranked rather below his plays and his music, but it might be sacrilege to say so in that hall.

Sir Edward Benthall quoted the artist Nand Lal Bose who wrote, "The artist expresses himself, lays his soul bare, through his creations alone, any attempt at bringing out the inner working of his mind by word of mouth or written expression of any kind is as impossible as it is fruitless." He would, therefore, leave the pictures to speak for themselves.

MR BRELVI ON ART IN INDUSTRY

Mr. S. A. Brelvi, broadcasting from Bombay on the Fifth Art in Industry Exhibition to be held in Bombay early next year said that if any art in industry movement is to succeed, a fundamental understanding of what art really meant and how it was related to the material, quality of workmanship and fitness of function should be the basis of such a movement.

"It will succeed," he added, "only if the organizers bear in mind that the demands of a modern community of moderate means for beautiful articles of common use, can mainly be met by large scale production—make sure 'that art becomes a vital part of the industrial process of such production."

"The problem before us," continued Mr. Brelvi, "is a two fold one—to overcome the indifference of the industrialists and to educate the consumer in aesthetic appreciation."

Sport

INDIAN TEAM'S VISIT TO CEYLON

The Board of Control for Cricket in India will, in all probability, send a representative cricket team to Ceylon early next year.

It will be recalled that at the recent annual meeting of the Board at Hyderabad, it was decided to postpone the visit of the All-India cricket team to Ceylon owing to transport difficulties. The Ceylon Cricket Association had invited the Indian team to make the trip early in 1945. This decision was communicated to the Ceylon Association who, while regretting, have again addressed the Board to reconsider their decision. They have suggested that the Indian team may arrive at Colombo on March 5 and leave on March 25 or 26.

The President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India has directed the Honorary Secretary to circularise the Ceylon Association's letter to all Associations for their views, he himself being in favour of sending a team in 1945, in view of their assurances.

INDIAN OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION

At the Executive meeting of the Indian Olympic Association held at Chelmsford Club, New Delhi, on October 17, Mr. Bahadur Singh presiding, Mr. P. Gupta's suggestion to form an All India Boxing Federation was accepted and the Honorary Secretary was authorised to explore the avenues in this regard.

At the Council meeting of the Indian Swimming Federation, held at the same place, Mr Moinul Haq presiding, it was decided to hold the next All-India Swimming Championships at Bombay.

OFFICIAL SWIMMING RECORDS FIXED

Philip Harbarger, Chairman of the National Collegiate Amateur Athletic Association Committee on swimming records, released the lists of new marks for 1944 as approved by the Committee and disclosed acceptance of the standard of 49·7 seconds for the 100 yard free style event set March 25 by Yale's Alan R. Ford, sensational swimmer from the Canal Zone. The feat ranks as a national record and the recognition virtually ensures its authenticity.

Science

PROF HILL ON THE USE OF SCIENCE

After receiving the medal of the Society of Chemical Industry at the Royal Institution on October 13 Professor A V Hill referred to his recent five months visit to India and said the greatest need was for fuller use of science and scientific method for this would have considerable effect on poverty from which India suffered The first of India s scientific needs was to strengthen and expand education and research in biological sciences in medicine and its associate subjects in physiology and biochemistry in genetics and all applications of biology to fisheries agri culture public health pest control animal and plant diseases and forestry There must also be better facilities for teaching and research in physics chemistry metallurgy and engineering without which industrial prosperity could not be attained A new spirit was abroad in India and it would be much easier now to rationalise scientific research under Government auspices than it would be later on

ROTATING LENSES CUT SUN GLARE

The American Optical Company has announ ced that its laboratory staffs have developed goggles with anti glare lenses to facilitate detection of submarines and survivors of torpedoed ships The lenses are rotated by hand in an arc of 180 degrees to cut the reflection of sunlight on water making it possible to see past the surface glare into the depths

NEW GEOLOGIC MAP OF U S

Nine years of work by a committee of 16 American experts headed by Chester R Longwell of Yale University resulted in the completion of a geological map of the United States that will give geologists an overall picture of the major structural features of bedrock and its relation to the occurrence of oil and of large scale move ments of the earth s crust

LATEST GERMAN WEAPON

An American front line report from somewhere in France says The latest German weapon is a fourteen ton projectile with an explosive radius of almost two miles

Film World

INDIAN FILM PRODUCERS TO TOUR EUROPE

The Independent Film Producers Associa tion is planning to send a delegation of Indian film producers to tour the U K the U S A and Russia to study the latest developments in the film industry if the necessary support and facilities are given by the Government of India

The cost of the tour will be borne by the Association which claims to represent 60 per cent of the output of the industry An announcement of the proposed tour was made by the President Mr Chhotubhai Desai at a tea party given recently by the Association in honour of Sir Sultan Ahmed Member for Information and Broad casting Government of India

Mr Desai suggested the conversion of the Information Films of India from a war time institution into a permanent department and its extension with the help of the film industry The production of propaganda films should be exclusively controlled by the Department of Information and Broad casting independent of the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies

Sir Sultan in his reply assured the Association that he was fully alive to the great educative value of films and promised he would render every possible help to the industry

FAMOUS CINE LABORATORIES

Mr Shiraj Ali Hakim Proprietor Famous Cine Laboratories Bombay is building an up to date film laboratory in Bombay The laboratory is the biggest independent one in India planned in such a way as to afford all facilities By the side of the laboratory he is also building a studio which is air condi tioned—perhaps the first of its kind in India

The Department of Information and Broadcasting Government of India have agreed to house their department as well as other Deparments such as Information Films of India Indian News Parade etc there

Mr Eddie Billimoria actor cum technician is connected with the Famous Laboratory since its inception He has proceeded to America under special permit from the Government of India for selecting the neces sary machinery and to expedite the import of the same

WAGES OF BOMBAY DOCK WORKERS

The basic wage rates of daily rated workers on rupees two or less per day in the Bombay dockyard and in the Bombay suburban district have been increased by two annas per day, says an order issued by the Labour Department of the Government of India on the report of Dr. D. V Rege, who enquired into the dispute between the Bombay dockyard administration and its employees. The order fixes overtime rates for the employees. The order is to be in force for six months, in the first instance, and if no notice for its termination is given by the workers, it is to be in force during the continuance of the present war. The notice referred to above may be given by the workers any time after four months from the date of the order but shall have the effect of terminating this order only upon the expiry of two months after the notice has been given. It shall be open to the administration, however, to increase the rates provided in the order.

Contravention of the order is made punishable with imprisonment for a maximum term of three years or with fine or with both.

WELFARE OF COAL MINE LABOURERS

In order to constitute a fund to finance welfare schemes for labour in the coal mines of India, the Advisory Committee set up under the provisions of the Collieries Labour Welfare Ordinance decided at its first meeting held at Dhanbad on October 12, to levy an excise duty of As. 4 per ton on all despatched coals, other than soft coke.

It was further decided that an amount of Rs. 6,00,000 would be spent on anti-malaria works throughout the mining settlements of India according to the scheme to be provided by Brigadier G. Covell, Director of the Malaria Institute of India.

PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT

A Bill to amend the Payment of Wages Act is published in a *Gazette of India* Extraordinary.

The statement of objects and reasons points out that when passed the Act was recognised to be an experimental legislation and that during its working a number of defects and difficulties have come to notice.

PANDIT NEHRU REFUSES INTERVIEWS

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, who is at present detained in Ahmednagar Fort, is understood to have declined to avail himself of the permission granted to Working Committee Members by the Government of India recently to have interviews with relatives on domestic matters.

Pandit Nehru in a letter to one of his relatives states

The conditions under which interviews are likely to take place do not fit in with my conception of dignity or the dignity of my dear ones. I do not want you or anyone else to take the trouble of coming here or to apply for an interview.

A PICTORIAL RECORD OF WAR

Fighting men on the Burma Front are helping to make a picture record of the Eastern war. Many officers and men have taken their own photographs and an Indian Army Order has been issued inviting them to submit them for official use.

"A history in pictures of India's part in the war, particularly as regards the Burma campaign, is to be published," said a senior officer of the Inter-Services Public Relations Directorate, India Command.

"Unofficial and amateur photographs can be of considerable value. They will usefully supplement pictures taken by our own official war photographers."

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR INDIA

The plan for the economic development of India which has been prepared by Mr. S. N. Agarwal, Principal, Commerce College, Wardha, in accordance with the Gandhian ideals, has already been submitted to Gandhiji for approval.

It is understood that the plan is being scrutinised by a few experts in Gandhian economics, including Mr. Kishorilal Mashruwala. Gandhiji himself is taking a keen interest in the plan.

THE LATE MR. OJHA

With the death of Mr. Amritla Ojha, Bengal loses one of her most prominent businessmen. His interests were wide. Sportsmen will remember him for the generous support he gave to numerous clubs and associations in the Calcutta area. Social welfare work also took up much of his time.

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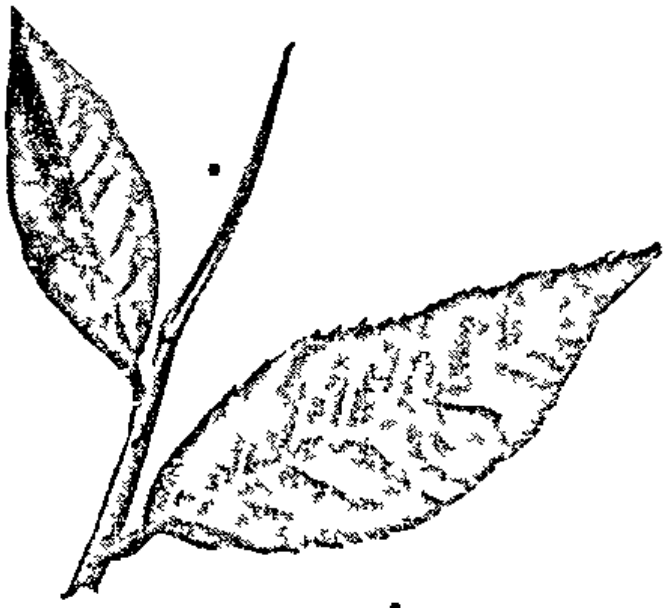
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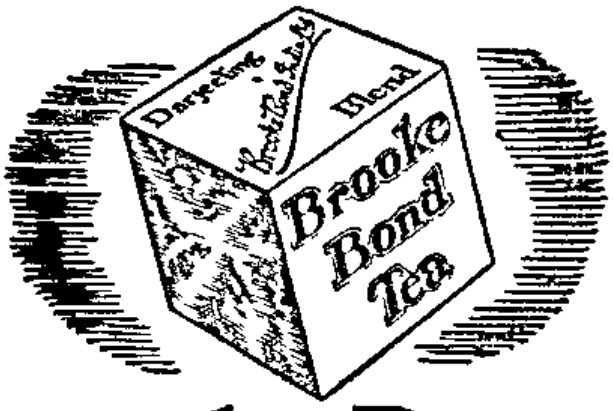
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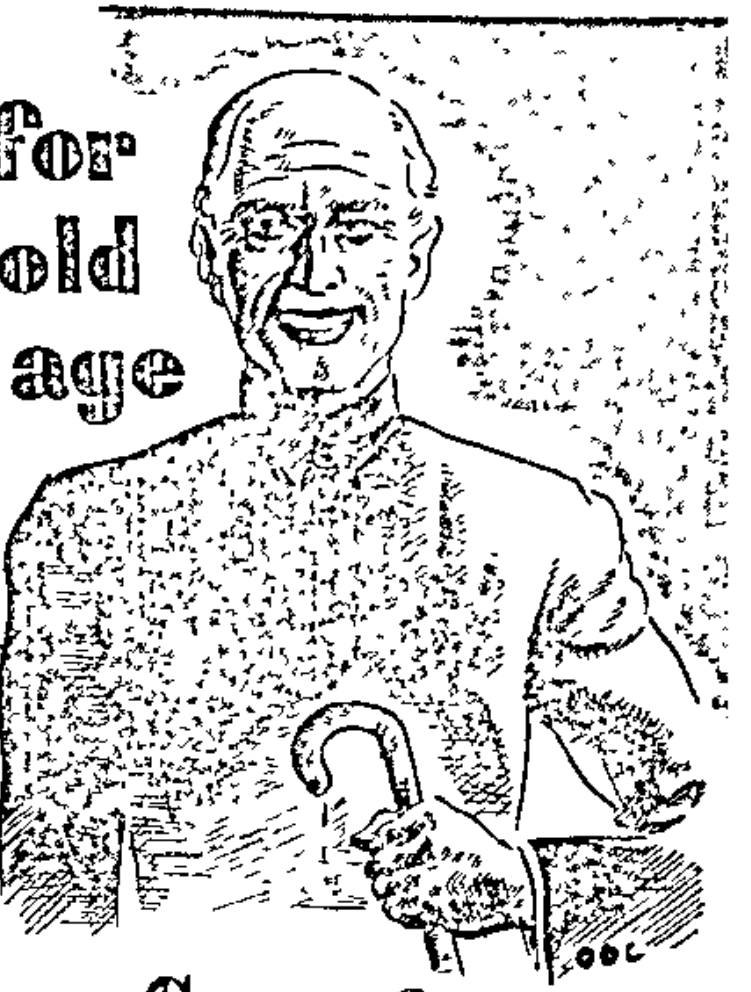
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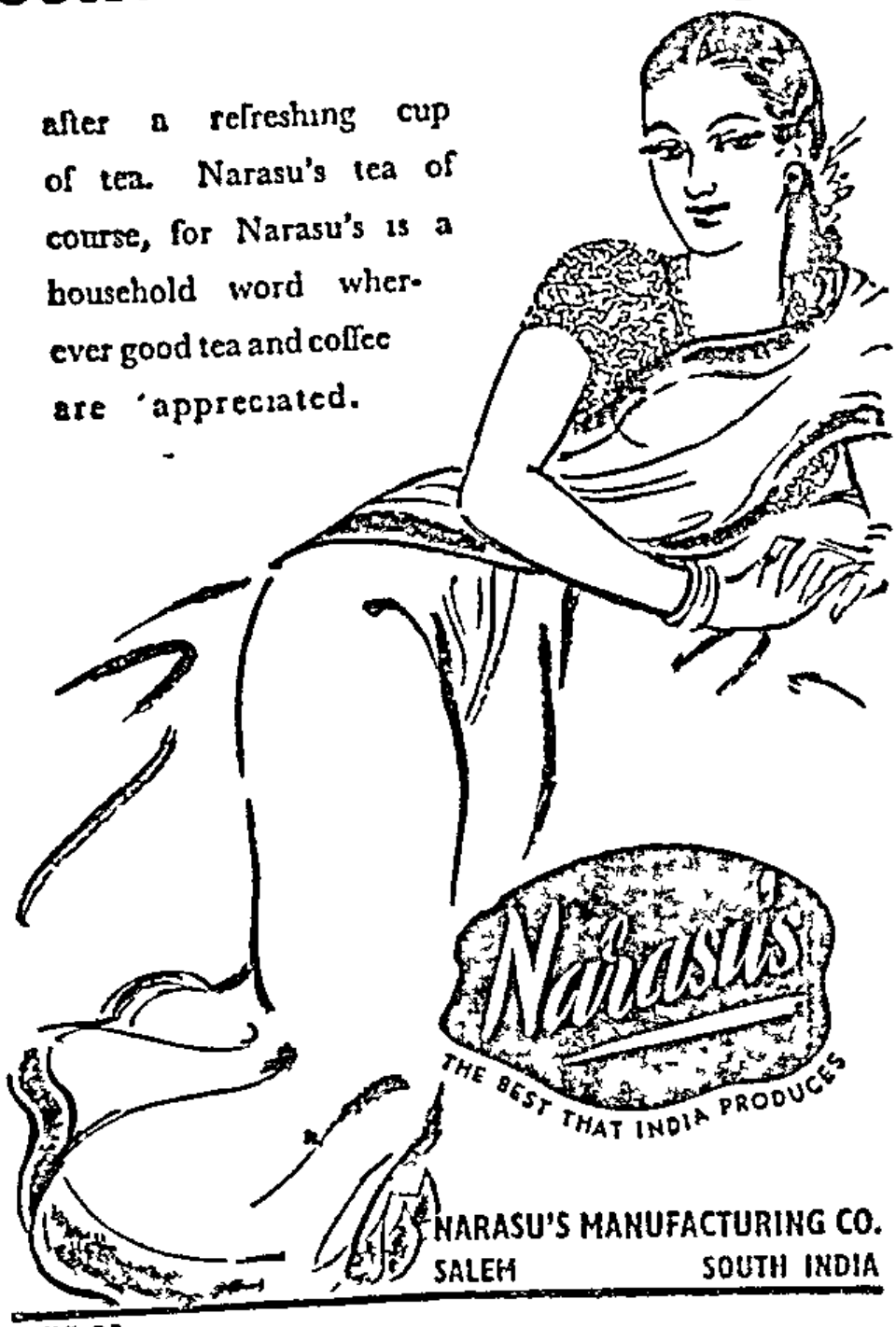
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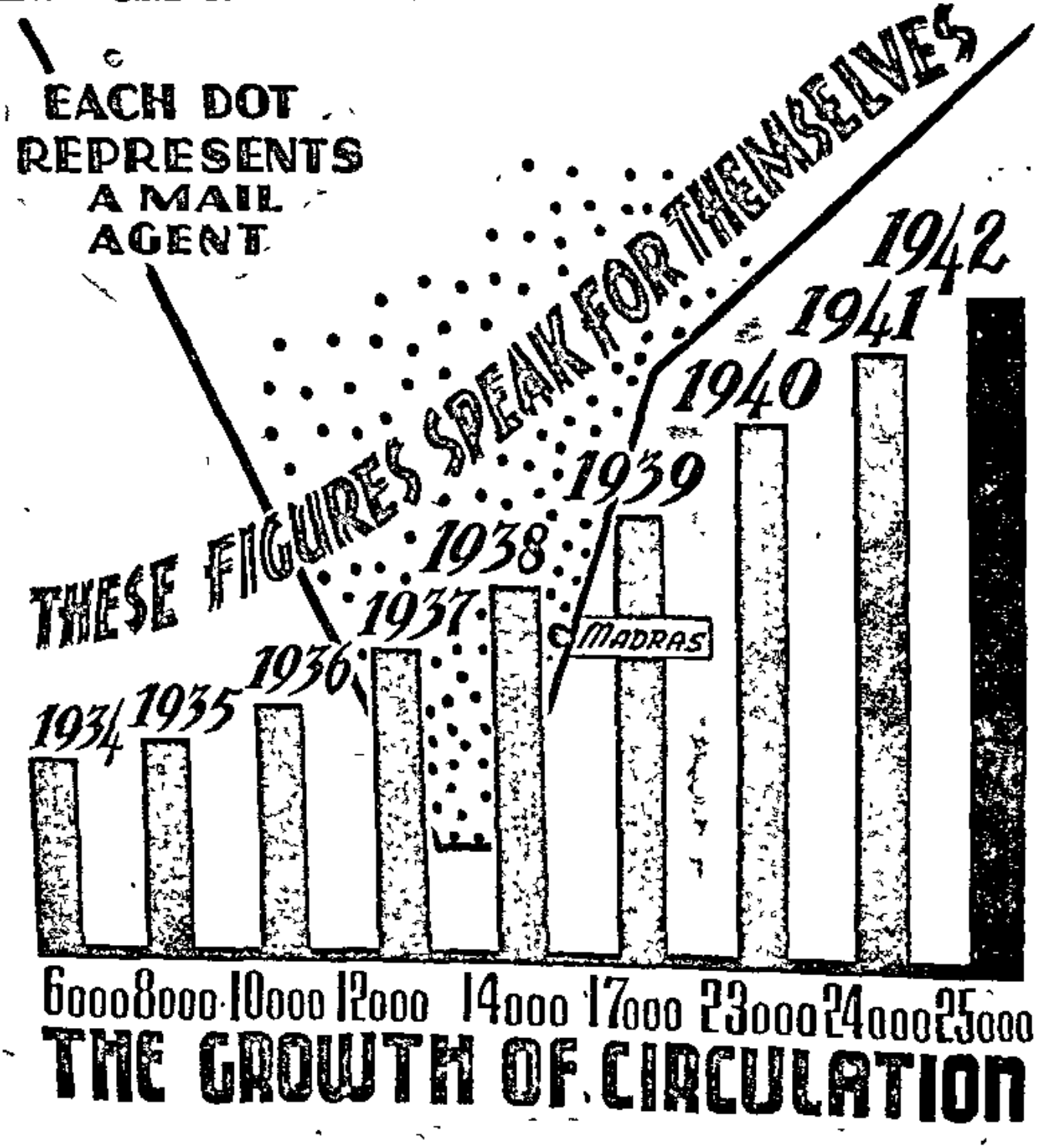
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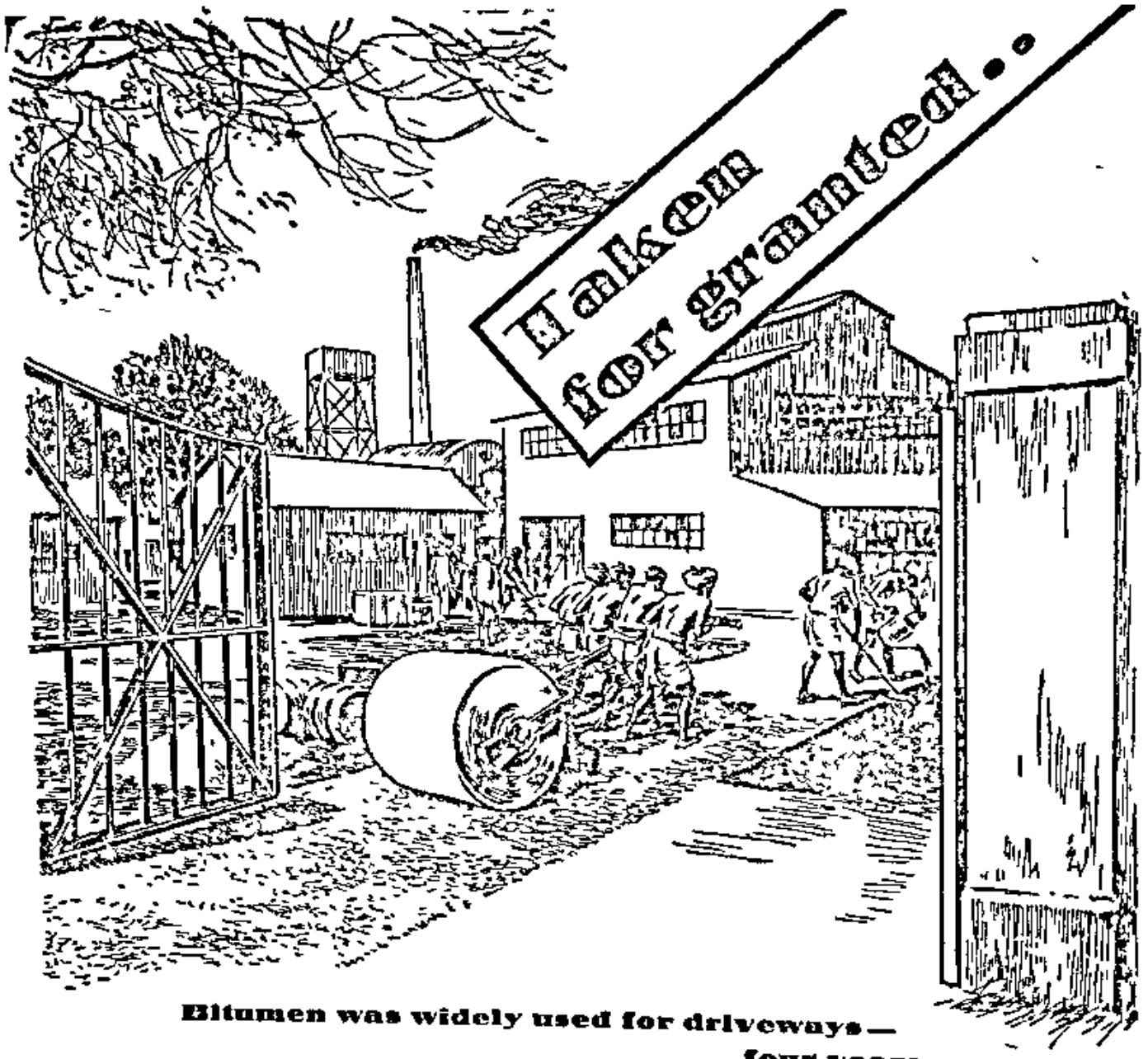
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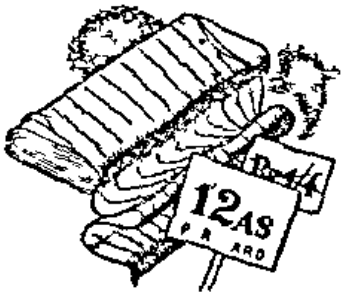
Today all available supplies of bitumen are reserved for vital roads and aerodrome runways and for essential road maintenance. These must come first in the interests of the war effort of the United Nations. When the time comes Burmah-Shell will again strive to ensure that not only bitumen but all petroleum products are available through out the length and breadth of India in ample quantities.

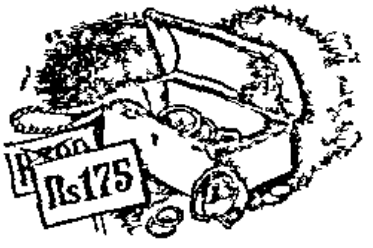
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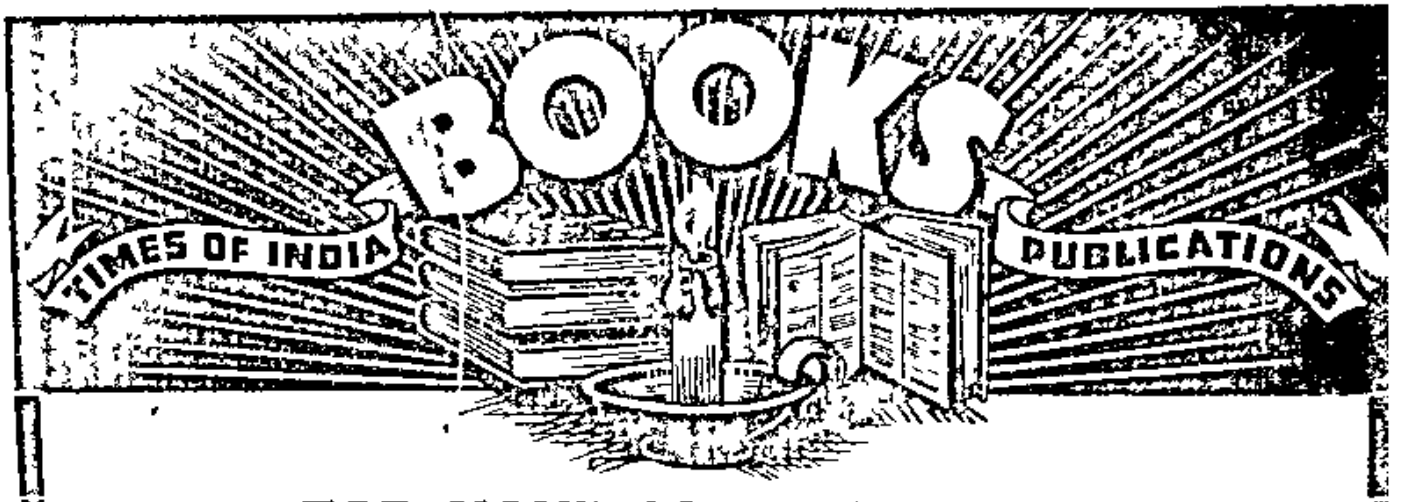
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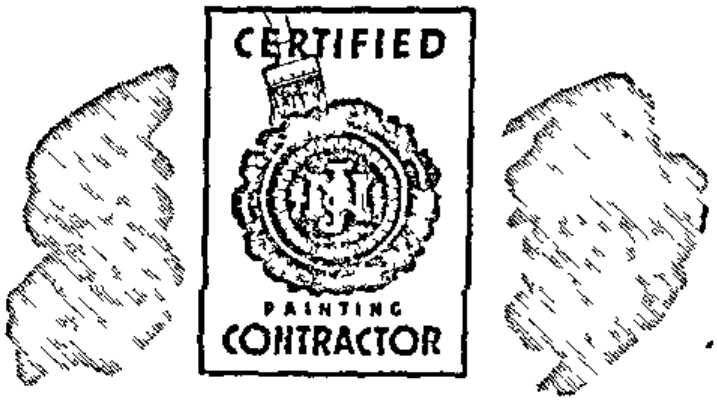
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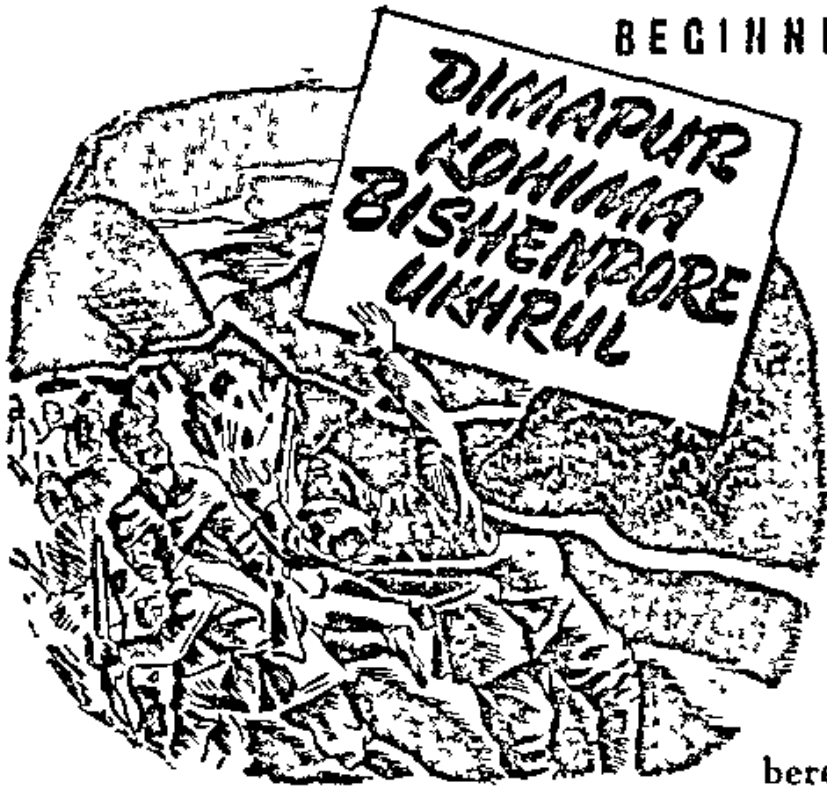
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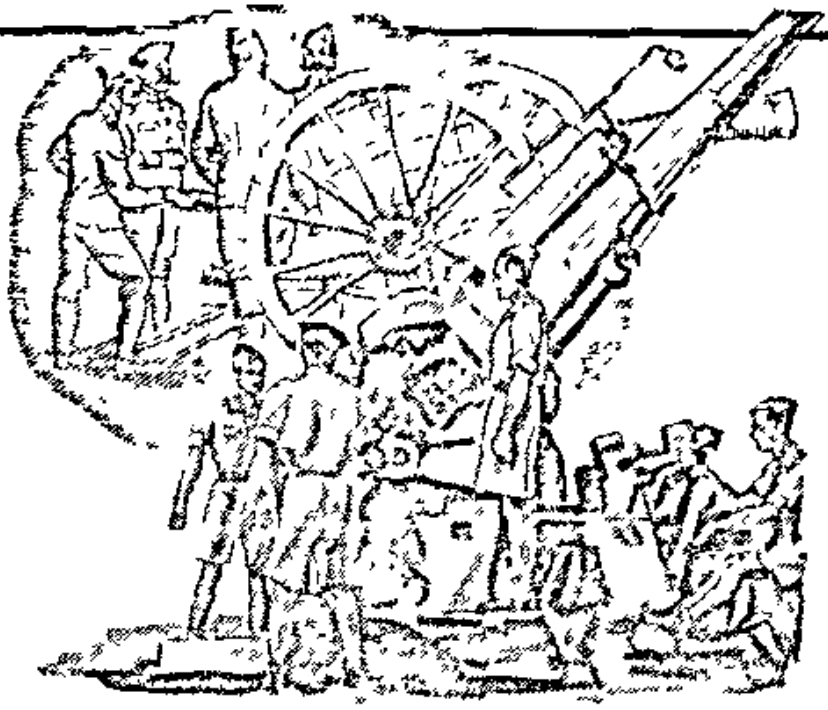
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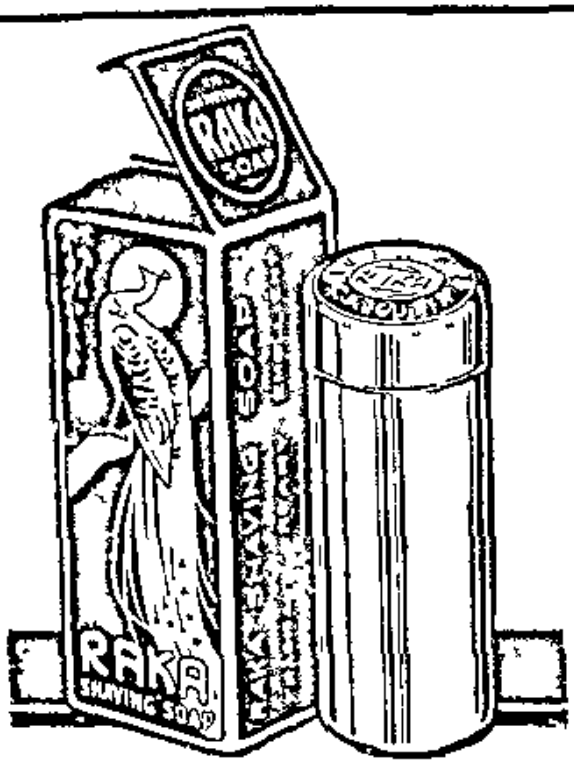
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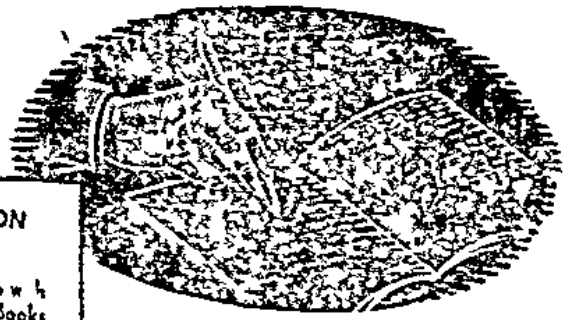
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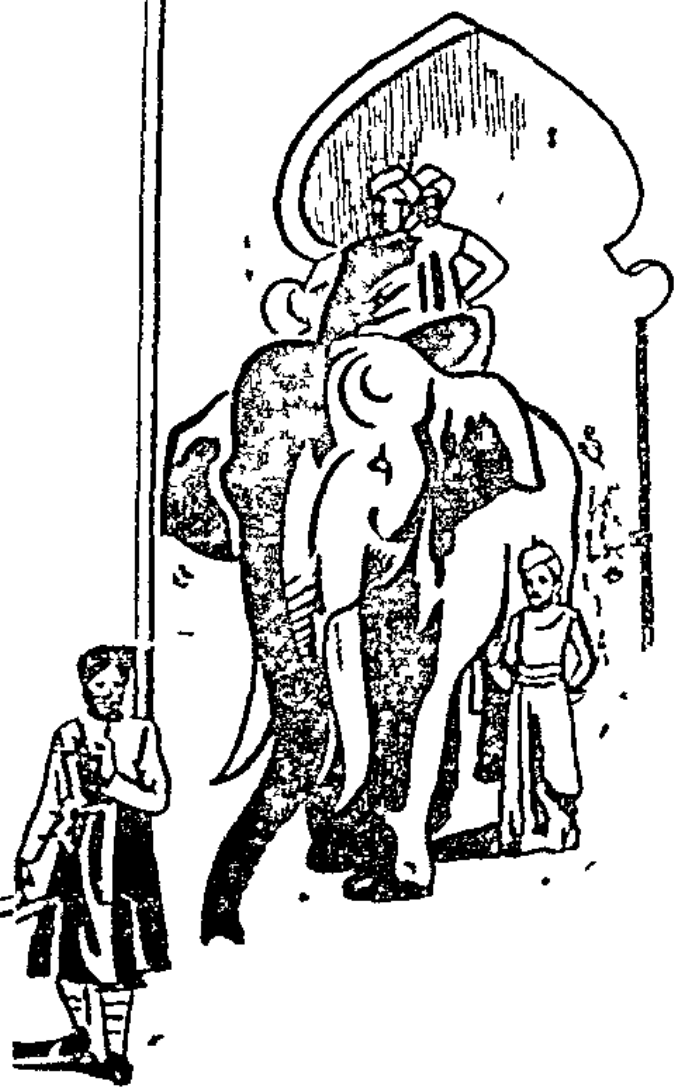
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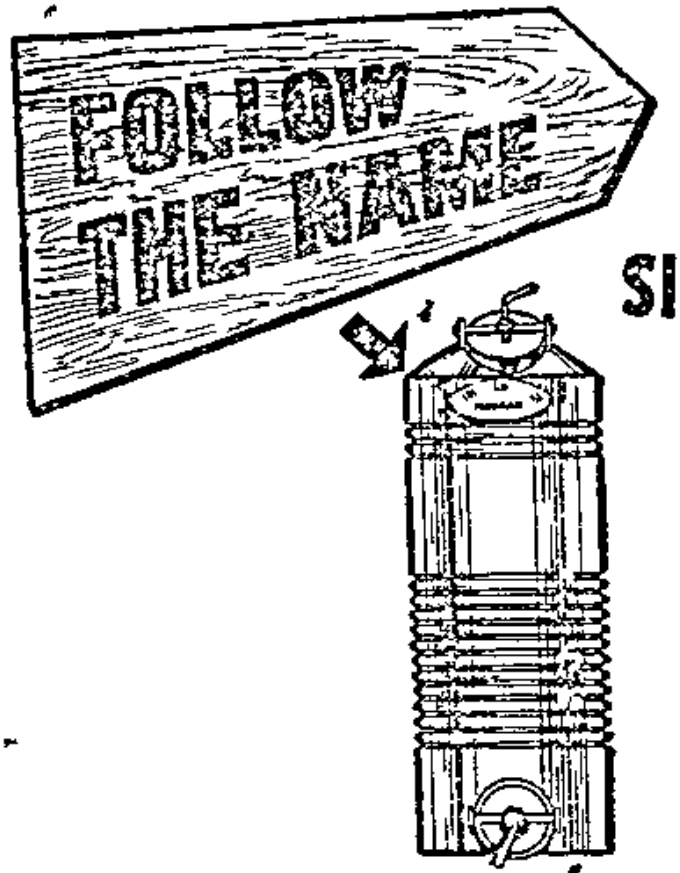
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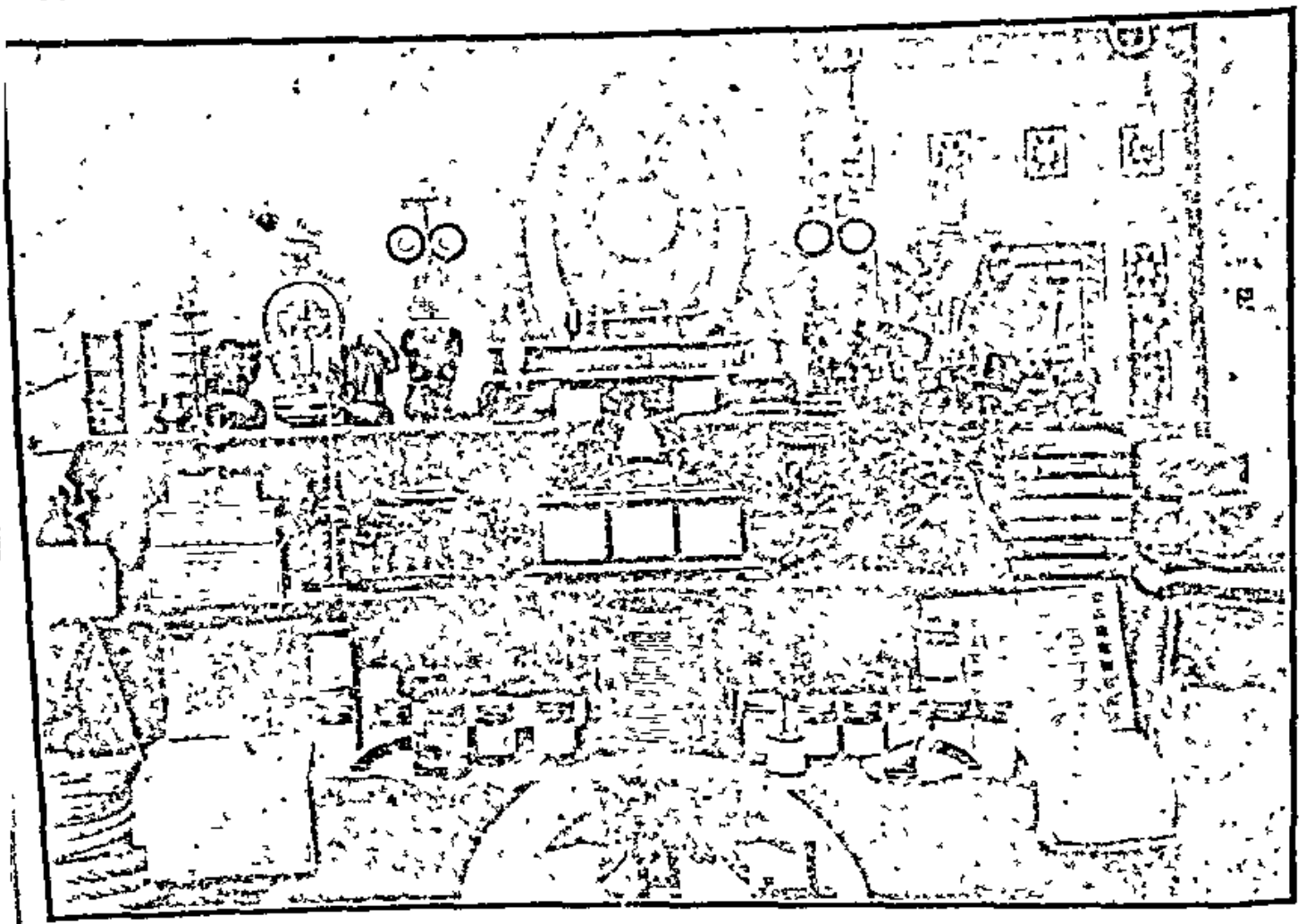
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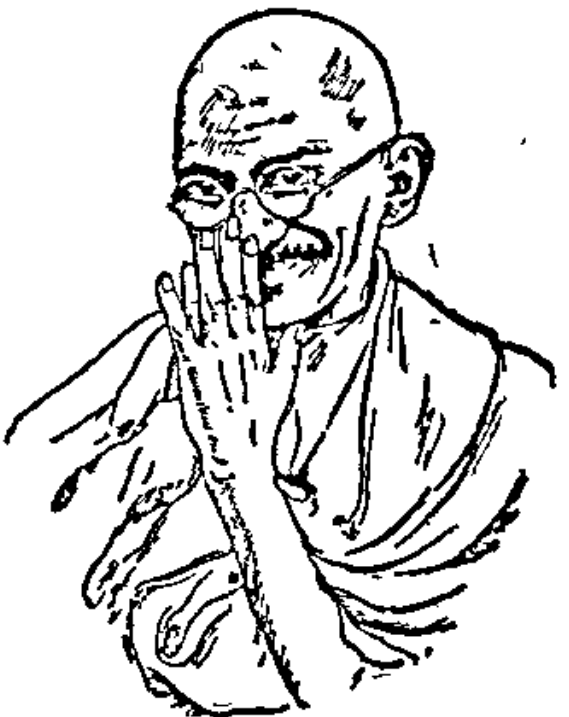
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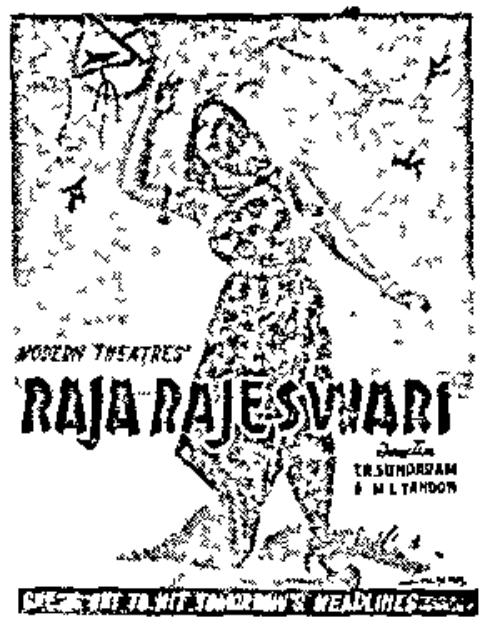
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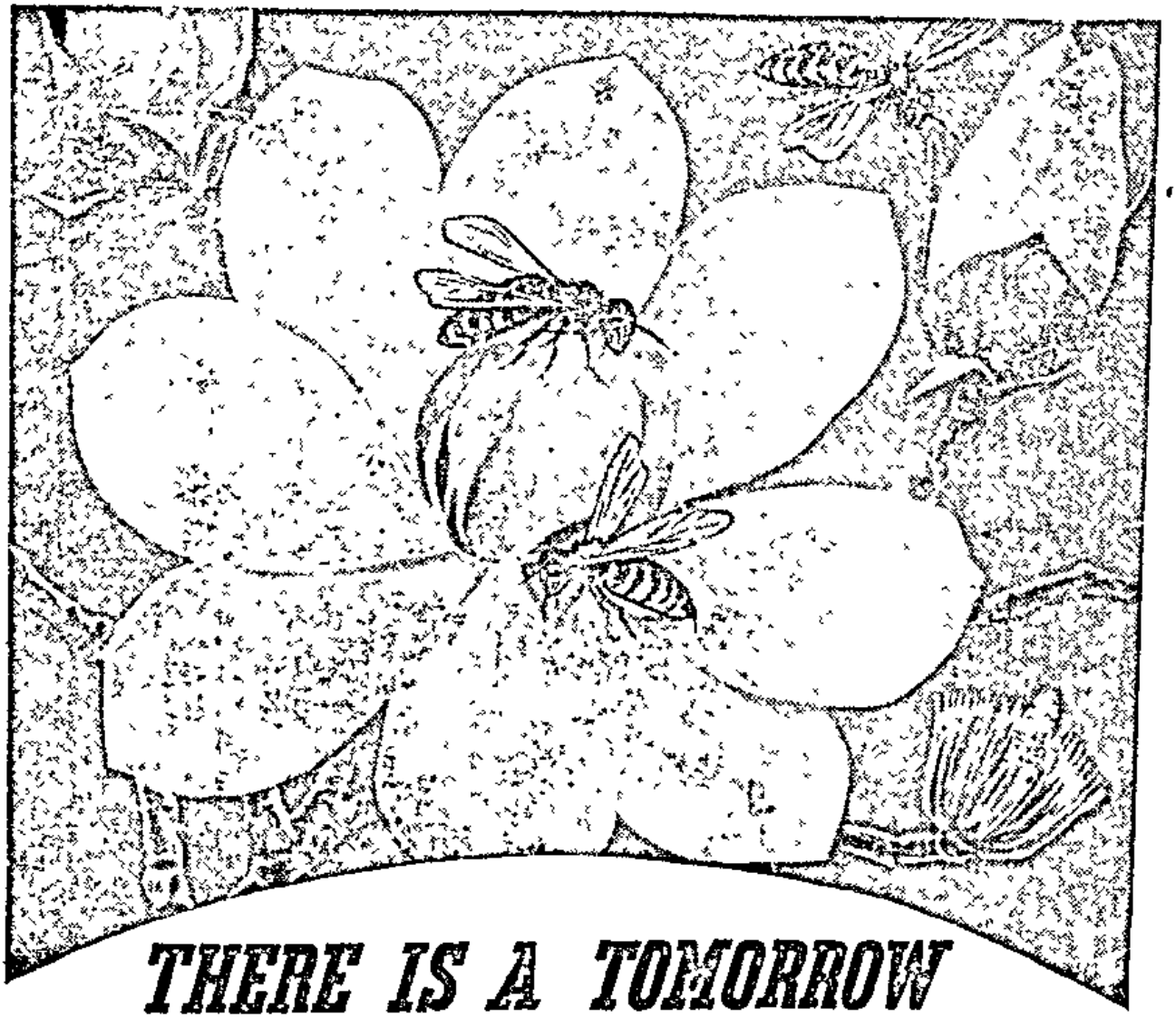
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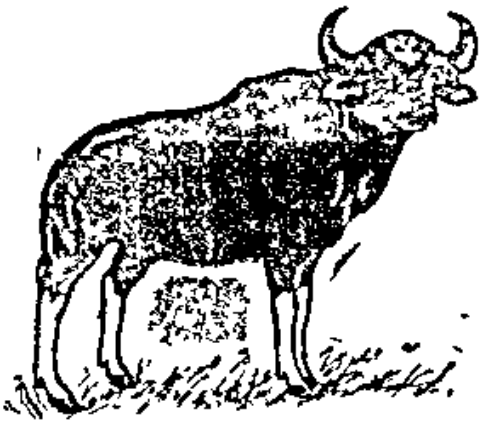
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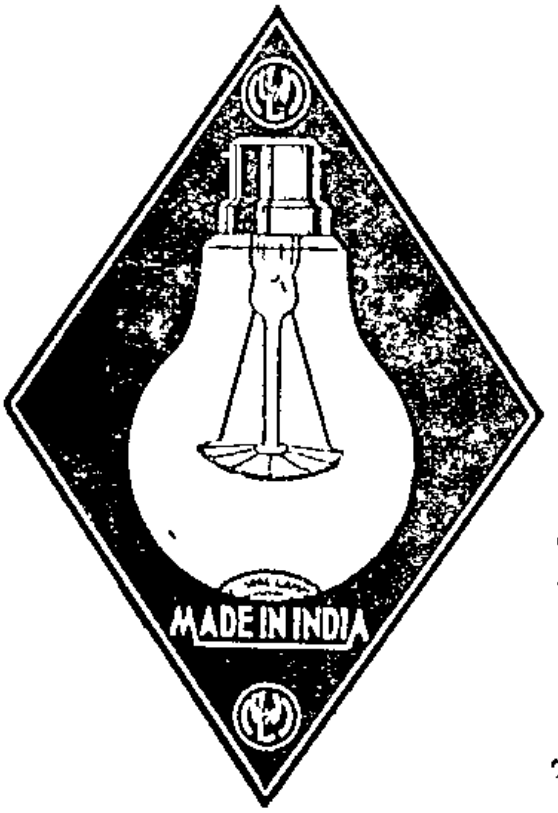
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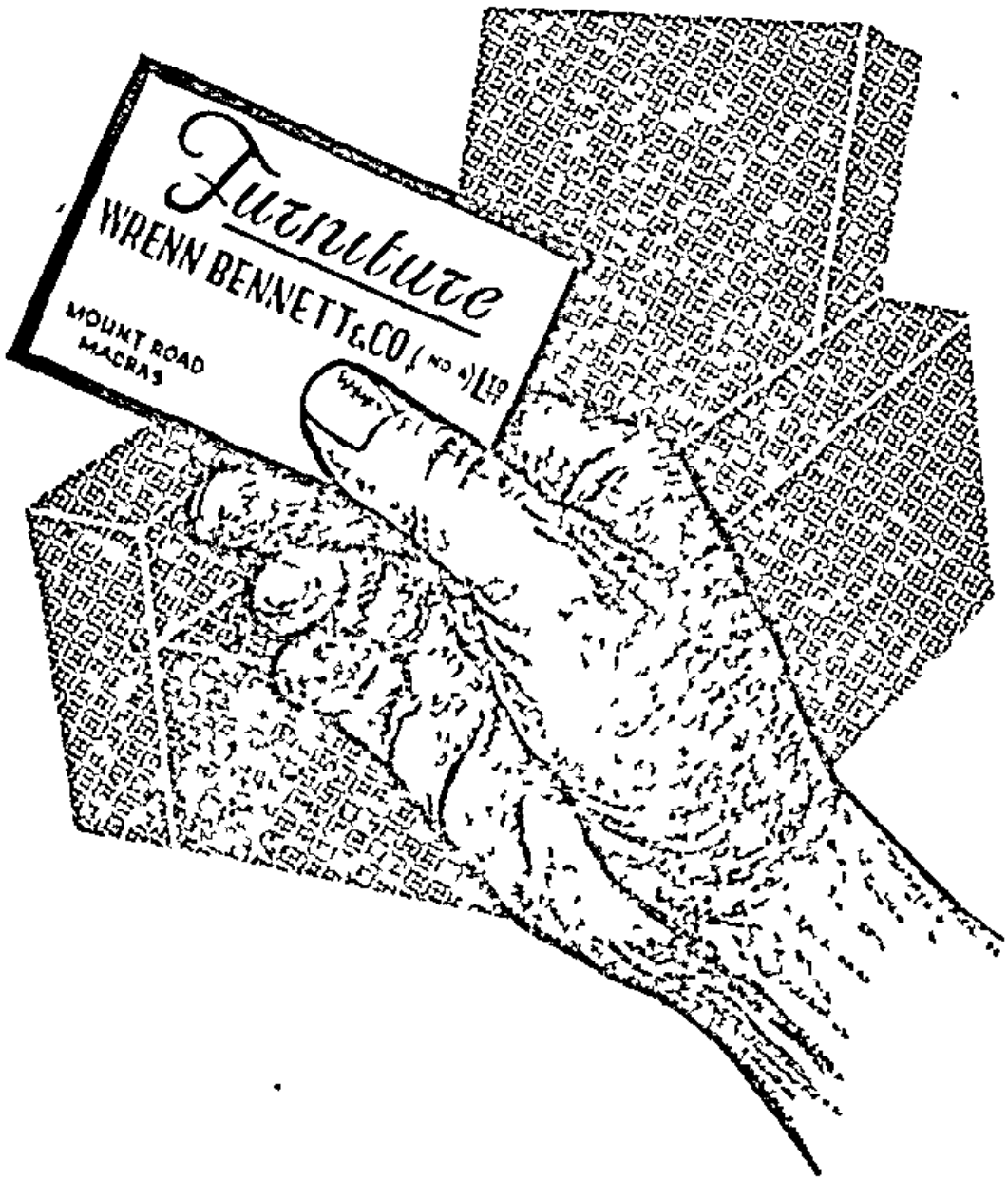
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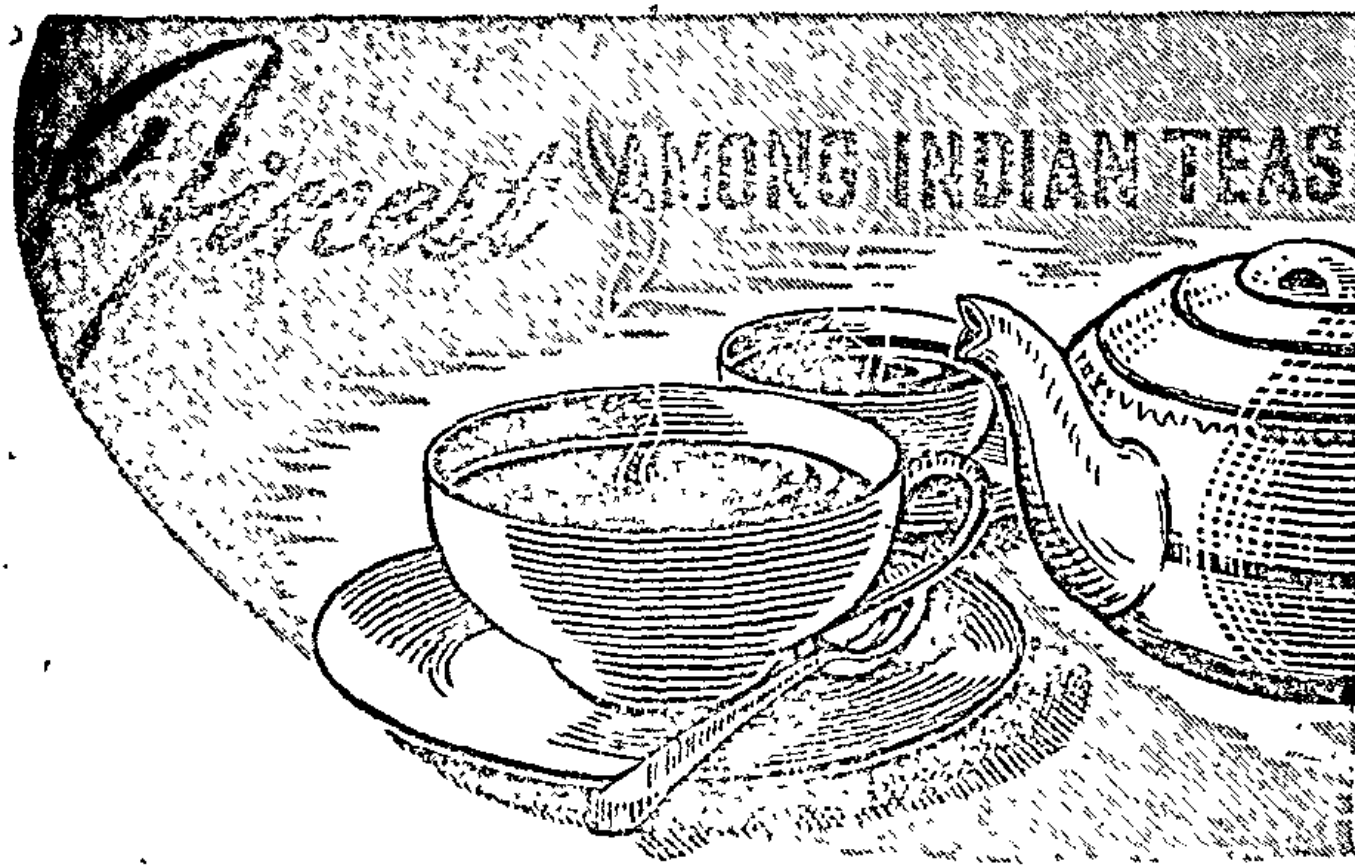
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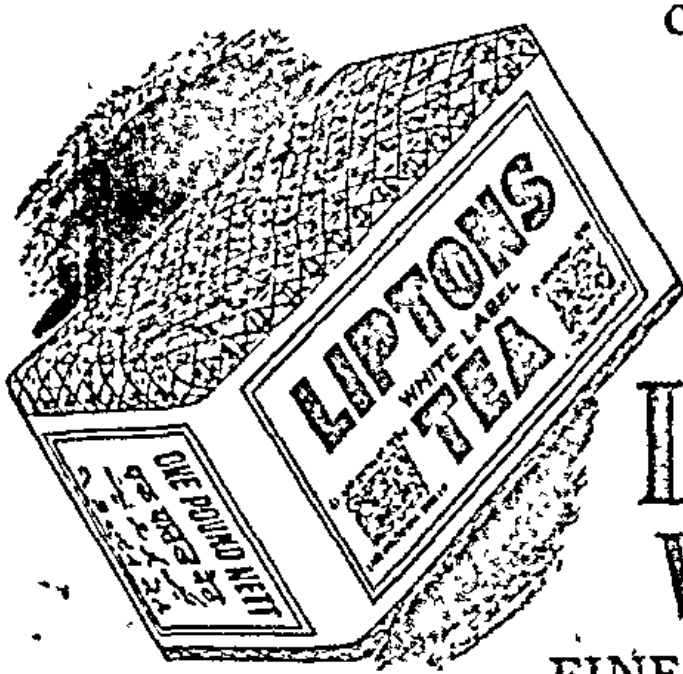
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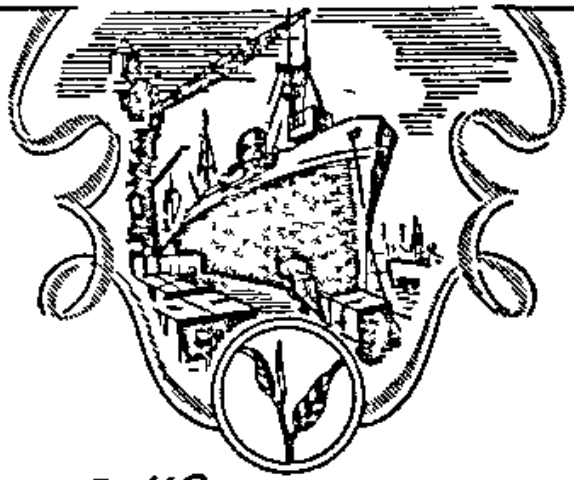


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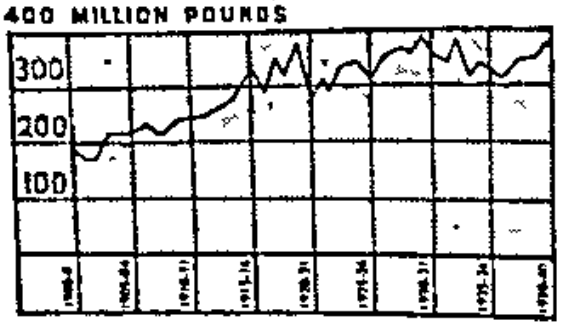
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this statement. It may he that he merely wished to give expression to the general desire that all the units of the Empire should remain firmly linked fogether and be freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations, equal in status and in no way subordinate one to another in respect of their domestic or external affairs. In the absence of any elucidation, however, the Prime Minister's statement has given rise to grave misgivings.

The Atlantic Charter appeared to have been intended for all, but a reference to it by Mr Churchill seemed to suggest, whether he meant it or not, that it was not applicable to India While he did not care to allay the apprehension caused thereby, Mr Amery took an opportunity to say that the Charter did apply to India. On another occasion Mr. Churchill is reported to have said that the Charter did not apply to Germany. This evoked a spirited protest from seventy Socialist, Liberal and Independent Members of the House of Commons. They tabled a motion to the effect that the statement had brought the Charter into disrepute, had depressed the spirit of considerable *sections of allied populations* and was calculated to prolong the war and make peace difficult. Subsequently, a section of the British Press has sought to hold the entire German people responsible for the war and proposals for the dismemberment of Germany have been also put forward, No wonder the agony of the War in the West is prolonged

One of the fatal mistakes made by the League of Nations was its failure to give a chance to Germany, to rebuild its shattered political and economic structure. The whole world has suffered in consequence. Are the United Nations going to repeat that folly? Considerations of human relationship as well as statesmanship demand that the conquered peoples should not be left to float about like derelicts on a sea of chaos. The victors owe it to themselves as well as the vanquished that those who are beaten are given a fair chance to rebuild their economic and political edifice on sound lines. After the last war Germans could have been given a chance to cleanse their hands and their souls and to be on their feet again with a peace-loving, responsible Government, but the peace terms offered to them practically gave them over to chaos. During my visits to Germany I was an eye witness to the dire distress and misery thus inflicted on the German people. In 1931 the International Congress of Orientalists was held at Leyden. I found that several German Professors were conspicuous by their absence. The reason given to me was that they were too poor to pay the railway fare for the journey from Germany to Holland. I might have considered it an exaggeration had I not been convinced of the grim poverty of the people by what I had seen and heard, only a few days before, in Leipzig. It is the opinion of several authorities that as a reaction to such distress and state of desperation Fascism raised its head in Germany. For an improvement in their abject condition people in Germany as well as in Italy saw no alternative to Fascism and they appeared to have had good reason to

believe that it was the Fascist regime that had saved the population from starvation and brought about a revival of trade and industry To give an illustration In September 1938 I was in St Moritz Our dinner party consisted of a Swiss lady, a German industrialist, an American student from Oxford and myself We could not help expressing to our German friend our disapproval of the manner in which the Jews were shockingly ill treated in Hitlerite Germany We also expressed our surprise that German people were allowing themselves merely to be dragooned into another armed conflict His reply was quite candid I give it in his own words so far as I can recall them "I do not like there are many in my country who do not like, the treatment meted out to the Jewish people although, I must say they have given cause for resentment We do not want war In spite of all the sabre-rattling we do not think there will be a war I am a businessman We business men do not meddle in politics It is not for us to criticise Hitler's policy He has given us bread Before he came into power we had nothing Now our factories are working three shifts I have three factories They are working day and night I repeat I do not think Germany will go to war But if there is a war, there will be surprises".

To revert to the Atlantic Charter Some months ago, it was stated in an American journal that the Charter was already dead The disquieting statements of Mr Churchill, the disconcerting pronouncements of other statesmen such as General Smuts, the anti social legislation of South Africa embittering inter empire relationship, the clamour of die hards to revert to old ideas of imperialism and the pressure brought on the Poles, repugnant to the principles of the Charter, to accept Russia's proposals concerning Polish frontiers, seemed to justify the inference As against that, however, we have the emphatic announcement made by Mr Churchill in the House of Commons The Atlantic Charter and its principles, he observed in answer to a question put to him, remain our dominating aim and purpose The Prime Minister knows that such a statement solemnly made on the floor of the House cannot be lightly forgotten, altered or abrogated We may be sure he knows what his responsibilities are in regard to this latest declaration of Britain's policy With the end of the war in sight people may become less idealistic and more worldly-minded, but the loyalty and fidelity of the Premier to the House of Commons must remain as sacred as ever before

There is, however, the danger that in trying to accommodate one another the three great Powers may forget the emphatic assurance given in the statement issued from Teheren jointly by the President of the United States, the Prime Minister of Great Britain and the Premier of the Soviet Union In it they recognised fully the supreme responsibility resting upon them and all the United Nations to make a peace which would command the goodwill of the overwhelming masses of the people of the world, and added

"We shall seek the co operation and active participation of *all* nations, large and small, whose peoples in heart and

are depicted as our own peoples, to the elimination of tyranny and slavery, oppression and intolerance."

This assurance has been reinforced by Secretary of State Cordell Hull's statement on the basis of the foreign policy of the United States?

"The pledge of the Atlantic Charter is of a system which will give every nation, large or small, greater assurance of stable peace, greater opportunity for the realisation of its aspirations to freedom and greater facilities for material advancement."

What an opportunity and what a responsibility! The opportunity has yet to come, but the sense of responsibility is already getting dim. It does not deter the great Powers from putting forward demands and imposing terms on small nations, friendly or otherwise, in regard to territorial adjustments and economic agreements The most glaring example is Russia's move to secure oil concessions in Iran. Whether or not it marks the beginning of an economic war among the allied nations such as that which followed the last war, it would seem to justify the belief that with the Atlantic Charter the Teheran declaration is also dead. Why should beon urged by Russian agents that his decision not to enter into any agreement until the war was over ran counter to public opinion in Iran. Whether it does ease the situation remains to be seen.

Throughout this war I have been an optimist both as regards the ultimate result of the conflict and as regards the emergence of a new era of international harmony and co-operation. Optimism concerning the new era has been now rudely shaken by incidents and observations such as those I have referred to But I still cling to my faith, based on the general trend of human evolution, in the destiny of man to gradually forge his way forward, despite set backs, towards the goal of universal concord and co-operation. All is not lost yet. Statesmen are but human. In their zeal to do everything possible for the security and prosperity of their own country they may lose sight of the principles and ideals by which and for which alone nations live and flourish. "Human Society," said Edmund Burke long ago, "cannot be saved by the little arts of great statesmen" It is for the people and the public press all over the world to set their leader right whenever there is a tendency

the war. That effort cannot be slackened if they hope to have any freedom left to them It is, however, time they also set about winning the peace. All over the world there should be a vigorous agitation for a just and abiding peace It would be futile, as once observed by Dean Inge, for only the sheep to pass resolutions in favour of vegetarianism if the wolf were to remain of different opinion Vainglorious politicians wherever they are found, have to be warned and convinced that political and economic gains secured by periodic slaughter of millions have brought no happiness to the conquerors, that the curse of conquest always comes home to roost and that war ever ruinous and demoralising has now become increasingly bestial and suicidal The time has come, indeed, when thinking people all over the world should unite in conveying a warning to the allied Powers that they appear to be drifting to the same rocks on which the bark of international concord was wrecked on the last occasion Are they to miss the second chance? They shall not, if a world-wide effort is made to ensure that the mistakes made before shall not be repeated, that people will no longer tolerate perpetuation or aggrandisement of vast empires at the expense of smaller or backward nations, that the end of this war must mean the end of domination of one country over another, that the victory of the United Nations must mean the victory of one set of principles of life over another, the triumph of right over might, and that the new world order is based on a world society of free nations If strong world opinion were thus created in favour of a peace based on justice and a just adjustment of human relationship, there is still hope for a great stride forward towards the organization of international life on stable foundations.

The Influence of Iqbal on Urdu Literature

BY SIR ABDUL QADIR

SHORTLY before the dawn of the twentieth century there arose, on the firmament of Indian literature, a star that has just passed out of our sight, after having shone for about forty years with a lustre peculiariarly his own. That star was the poet Iqbal, or to give him his full name and titles—Dr. Sir Mohammed Iqbal—who left the scene of his earthly labours in April 1938

He was about four and twenty when he first rose to fame as a writer of Urdu poetry and he continued his devotion to literature and learning for the rest of his life. His Urdu poems, which have been collected and published under the name of *Bang i-dira*, had made him widely known throughout India, when he discovered that he could express his thought in Persian with equal facility. His first book in Persian, the *Asrari i Khudi* (Secrets of Self), served to extend his fame beyond the borders of India and its translation, with notes by Professor Nicholson of Cambridge, made Iqbal's work known to the scholars of the West. This book was followed by the *Ramuz i Bekhudi* (Mysteries of Selflessness) Then came the *Payam i Masbriq*

(The Message of the East), which is a response to Goethe's Divan. His other books in Persian are *Zabur-i-Ajam* and the *Javid Nama*

While the poet was busy with his Persian poems, there was a growing demand on the part of the admirers of his Urdu verse that he should make some further contributions to Urdu poetry. He responded to this call by giving us two more collections of Urdu poems, called the *Bal i-Jibril* and the *Zarb-i Kalim*, which reproduce the the theme of the "Secrets of Self", that is—the development of the powers of Ego, which runs through all the Persian writings of Iqbal A posthumous collection of his poems entitled the *Armughan i-Hijaz*, was published shortly after his death. It consists mostly of Persian poems but has in it some Urdu poems as well, mainly religious in character, as its name implies.

The effect of the poetry of Iqbal on the minds of the Urdu reading public in India, and on those who can understand his Persian poems, may be gauged from the fact that a few months before his passing away, there was a spontaneous movement throughout the country to organize huge gatherings of people, at different centres of intellectual activity, to pay tributes of admiration to the poet and to discuss the value of his writings Hundreds of such meetings were held, at each of which papers dealing with Iqbal's works were read, and poems written about him were recited.

Some of these papers and poems have been collected and published in book form and make very interesting reading . There is no record in India of such a wide-spread homage paid to any literary man in his life-time and so far as I am aware perhaps it is difficult to find an exact parallel elsewhere.

The influence of Iqbal on his contemporaries has been vast and varied, and he has left an impress on the form as well as the substance of present day Urdu literature. In the early stages of his career, his tendency was to adopt his favourite expressions and his Persianised phrases in the style of Ghalib. Towards the end of his life, there was a strong inclination to follow the thought and purpose of his poetry.

Among the writers in the United Provinces the earliest to adopt his style were Durga Sahai Sarur of Jahanabad and Nadir of Kakori. They had a fair amount of success but the same cannot be said of all who tried to adopt the poems of Iqbal as model. There was in Iqbal's poems skilful blending of Persian phrases with Urdu, in the manner of Ghalib, and he could do this well with his exceptionally good knowledge of Persian, but an imitation of that style by people not so well-versed in Persian and not so artistic, had results which were far from happy. The tendency to use too many Persian expressions has, to some extent, crept into modern Urdu prose and even in journalistic prose, but this should not be encouraged, as it is necessary to keep the language of Urdu prose as simple as possible.

It must be remembered, however, that Iqbal's Urdu poetry was not all in the ornate Persianised style. Many of his best poems are models of simplicity. Take, for instance, the pieces written by him for the young, which are fondly recited by our children in their schools as well as homes The opening lines of *Pirwda Ki fariad* or "The Bird's Wail", may be quoted as a specimen. They are so simple and touching. It is the song of a caged bird, remembering his lost liberty :—

> The memory comes to me of the times gone by,
> The delights of the Garden where all chirped together—
> Where is now that freedom of my own nest.
> That coming in and going out at pleasure.

Among the poems for grown-ups, the *Naya Shivala*, which was a call for Hindu-Moslem unity, is a fine example of simple Urdu. In the closing lines, the poet has shown his command of simple Hindi as well He says :—

> We may chant every morning those *Mantras* Sweet,

And inebriate all worshippers with the wine of love—
In the song of the devout
Dwells Power as well as Peace—
The salvation of the denizens of the earth lies in affection for one another

Many of Iqbal's later poems also combine simplicity of expression with sublimity of thought The *Saqi Nama*, in the *Bal i Jibril* furnishes a fine illustration Take the following two lines —

Thou thinkest that life is a secret,
It is only another name for the desire to soar high—
Many ups and down it has seen,
But it loves the journey better than the destination

With the wide range of study of Western poetry and philosophy, Iqbal found numerous subjects to form the basis of his poems and has thus served as a source of inspiration to many younger writers As a notable instance of this form of influence may be mentioned the work of one of our most popular young poets, Hafeez Jalandhari His style differs very much from that of Iqbal, but many of the themes chosen by him have their parallels in the earlier works of Iqbal, and must have been suggested to him by his studies of Iqbal's poetry, for which he has a great admiration Take the poems of both on the Himalayas, each excellent in its own way, or on the river Ravi, each having a distinctive approach to the same subject and a distinctive treatment of it The seed of the famous song of Hafeez, known as *Pit Ka git*, could be found in the closing lines of Iqbal in his *Naya Shivala*

A subject to which we find frequent references in the writings of Iqbal and which has become a popular theme in Urdu poetry and prose, is sympathy for the toiling millions of the world The antagonistic attitude of mind towards the rich, which is induced by a contemplation of the troubles of the poor, is a sequence of this sympathy The following lines in the *Bal i Jibril*, which are supposed to embody a command of God to His Angels, show how strongly Iqbal felt for the poor —

Rise! and awaken the poor of My world,
And shake the gates and the walls of the mansions of the rich—
The period of the supremacy of the people is approaching—
Do away with all the old lineaments—
The field that fails to give livelihood to the peasant,
Burn every sheaf of corn in that field—
This new civilization is a factory of glass makers—
Teach a new method (of dealing with it) to the poet of the East

Iqbal has found many adherents of this creed among the literary men of to day In fact the place of the rose and the nightingale in Urdu poetry has been taken by the comparatively dry theme of capital and labour in every popular literary symposium Professor M D Tasir, who is an ardent admirer of Iqbal, and himself a well known literary man, is continuing this part of Iqbal's work in the Urdu poems, which he has contributed to different periodicals Another well known poet, *Josh* Malihabadi, is a keen supporter of labour against capitalism His writings, however, are purely Communistic, as they discard religion along with capital, while Iqbal's Socialism is not dissociated from religion

The emphasis laid by Iqbal on the world's need for religion, is one of the special features of his work and many other writers are following him in this direction, According to him many of the troubles of Western countries are due to their indifference to religion He asks the Nations of the East to bear in mind the importance of spiritual advancement along with material progress As a Moslem he derives his inspiration from his own religion, and the religious terms used by him in his poems are mainly Islamic He has exercised a great influence on the youth of his country and represents a strong reaction against the materialistic tendencies of Western education

This reference to his spiritual call brings us to a consideration of the subject *Khudi* which Iqbal made particularly his

The literal meaning of the word 'Khudi' is 'selfhood' but it has been clothed by Iqbal with a wide connotation. He believes that man is a spark of the Great Light which illuminates the whole Universe and has immense potentialities within it, just as a small seed has in it the making of a great tree. He holds that it is a duty which man owes to himself and to his Creator and to the Creation around him, to develop his God-given powers in such a way, as to utilise nature for the good of humanity

This idea is beautifully expressed in the following lines

The stars are trembling at the progress of man, made of clay,
Lest this fallen star may attain the brilliance of the full moon.

A detailed discussion of what Iqbal means by '*Khudi*' and its development is not within the scope of this article Those desiring to study it must read the *Asrari-i Khudi* in Persian, or Professor Nicholson's translation of it. To give an idea of the poet's view, I am quoting a few lines in Urdu from he *Zarb i Kalim*:—

The Truth seeking man, whose Self has awakened
Is like a sword which is cutting and brilliant.
To his keen eye is visible
The power to show what is latent is every atom
You are nowhere in comparison with the man of God—
You are the slave of the heavens
While he is their master.

In another place in the same book, the poet thus addresses the reader:—

If the Self is alive, even poverty is kingship—
The prestige of the penniless is not inferior to that of Saojar and Tugral.
If the self is alive, the endless ocean is fordable.
To a live self the stones of a mountain are soft like silken cloth.
A live crocodile is free when encircled by water,
While a lifeless crocodile is enchained even when there is only a mirage in place of water

He preaches the cult of manly self-dependence and the cultivation of power for the individual as well as the nation. When he first emphasised this view, it was remarked by some of his critics that he had taken this idea from his studies of the German philosopher, Neitsche. He was, no doubt, familiar with Neitsche and must have been, to some extent, influenced by him, but he points out in one of his verses that the distinction between himself and the German philosopher was that the life of self which he (Iqbal) aims at developing is through faith in God, while the scheme of the German philosopher was without God.

This phase of Iqbal's poetry has had a far-reaching effect on the minds of young men in general and on Moslem young men in particular. Essays are being written on this subject in schools and colleges and articles are continuously appearing on it in newspapers and periodicals.

The sorrow caused by his departure from this world has lent a fresh impetus to the study of his works and of his most favourite theme Literary societies named after him have been established in numerous places in India and many editions of his poems have been published.

I wish to refer to one more prominent feature of Iqbal's poety before I conclude, and that is his criticism of the civilization of the West. In spite of his Western education and an extensive study of Western literature and philosophy, he remained a true Oriental at heart, proud of the best traditions of the East. He has called himself "the poet of the East," in more places than one. He was not impressed by the glare and glitter of modern civilization and warned his people against yielding to its external attractions. He also warned the people of the West against the lure of a civilization divorced from religion and its poisonous effects on their body politic. This trend of thought has also got many followers among the writers of Urdu poetry and prose.

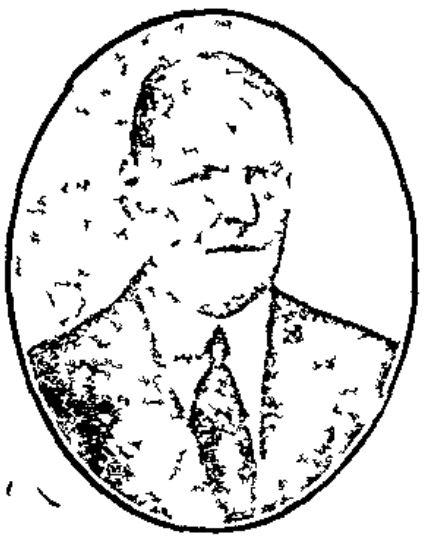
Looking at the many ways in which Iqbal has exercised his influence over Urdu literature, I think it must be acknowledged that we owe him a lasting debt of gratitude for the great service rendered to Urdu by him. He has left Urdu richer, in thought as well as expression, by his poetry.

The City of Uncomfortable Night

By Sir HUBERT SAMS, Kt

"A few got through and caused damage and casualties"

WITH the flying bomb nuisance in full blast most people, who can conscientiously do so have left London Parents are urged to send their children away Expectant mothers are persuaded to leave Few people deliberately go to



Sir HUBERT SAMS

London on pleasure bent Only those, who have urgent business there, venture to the Capital

Recently I was one of those who had urgent business in London, where I had to spend a couple of nights At the railway terminus I was greeted by a red notice announcing an Alert in progress That did not trouble me unduly, as in a few minutes I was in the near by Tube the one really safe place in London As I emerged from the Tube at the end of my brief journey, a red notice announced another (or perhaps the same) Alert I had to take my chance and a taxi otherwise I should have been late for my appointment

I admired the nonchalance of the cabby, who picked me up, and of the drivers and conductors of the buses, which were running as steadily as if sudden death or maiming did not hover overhead I wondered at the calm of the wayfarers walking briskly on their lawful occasions or sauntering along looking at the shop-windows and taking the risk of being cut to pieces by flying glass During that Alert a 'Doodle Bug' burst with a dull explosion a mile or two away In the course of my appointment I counted four such bursts, luckily at some distance

In bus or tube or tea shop the main topic of conversation is the Flying Bomb People readily exchange experiences This one had been bombed out of house and home and had lost all his belongings, that one had escaped with a shaking another had just lost a relative or friends This was the talk around me in the restaurant, where I lunched Yet everyone went on calmly eating, regardless of the chance of a bomb falling at any minute through the glass dome and of turning the peaceful scene into a shambles

At my hotel it was the same From all quarters of the Lounge I heard 'Flying Bomb', "Flying Bomb, Doodle bug" Yet there was no sign of fear or panic, only a dropping of the voice and a quiet, fatalistic look At tea time the waitress brought in the various teas briskly and unconcernedly After tea the guests sat about in the garden enjoying the sunshine of a lovely August afternoon Some talked probably 'Bomb talk', some read in their evening paper of the Allied

victories. Dinner was served and eaten as in the almost forgotten evenings of peace We listened to the 9 o' clock News and subsequent 'War Report' with delight, for all the news was good.

Then came bed time People wished each other 'good-night' quietly with a special significance. The chances were against a 'good' night. One old lady pulled together two arm chairs, evidently feeling that she would be safer sleeping in the Lounge on the ground floor than upstairs in her room, to which she retired to prepare for the night. Others of us slipped away silently up to our rooms, undressed, got into bed and waited for the dread wail of the Siren. We waited, waited and dropped off into an uneasy sleep.

The siren woke us at four o'clock in the morning. I heard the voices of other guests in the corridors, seeking some favoured shelter such as under a stair-case or near two inner walls. I got up, turned on the light (the room was blacked out) got a book, lit a cigarette and listened At first nothing! Then in the distance came a rumbling sound. It grew louder and became a roar, as of an express trai rushing through a station. Right over-head as it seemed, the engine of the evil thin cut off. There was a sinister pause Where would it fall? A blinding flash an a terrific explosion, which made the hote rock. Thank God; This time it did fall!

The Terror went on till half-past five when, to my in-expressible relief, th "All Clear" sounded and, tired out, rolled into bed

The 'fun' started again, as we wer dressing for breakfast. Some guests, mor nervous than others, gave their baths a mis and got quickly into their clothes. In th light of morning, with the familiar sound of bus and lorry, of the tap-tap of heel on the pavement, the Terror did not seem so menacing. But at night it had a added horror.

After only two days and two nights o flying bombs I was not sorry to be in th train from London, putting mile afte mile between me and 'them'. But I thought then and am still thinking of those intrepid Londoners, who day after day and night after night 'stick it'.

Indian Christians and the Political Situation

BY KUNWAR SIR MAHARAJ SINGH

INDIAN Christians in India now number about seven millions including those living in Indian States and form the second largest religious minority. People are apt to forget that, though almost all Indian Christians in north and central India are comparatively recent converts or descendants of converts from other religions, this community has existed in South India for very many centuries According to tradition the Apostle Thomas visited India in the second half of the first century of the Christian era and established a number of churches. Whether or not this is correct—much can be said in support of the tradition—it is reasonably certain that there have been colonies of Indian Christians in this country since the fourth century.

These Christians and their descendants are almost entirely confined to South India and in particular the Indian States of Travancore and Cochin and are popularly known as Syrian Christians Thus Christianity in South India is of very long standing

I recently heard a prominent Indian statesman remarking that of all the minorities in this country the Indian Christians were the most nationally minded It was a generous tribute A generation ago however this could hardly have been said of them At that time Indian Christians as a whole largely because of their taking the political views from British Westerners to whom they owed their conversion but also because of their insignificant numbers and influence, kept aloof from Indian politics There were of course always exceptions For instance, Babu Kali Charan Banerjee and Mr A Nundy were prominent members of the Indian National Congress more than 40 years ago My own father, Raja Sir Harnam Singh, who held progressive views was offered the presidentship of the Indian Congress in the early part of this century But, generally speaking Indian Christians in those days were content with a politically separate existence There has been a great change especially in recent years In illustration I have only to refer to the resolutions passed at the All India Conference of Indian Christians in March 1943 Among other demands the immediate convening of a Round Table Conference was urged and the British Government were asked to make a clear declaration that India shall attain full freedom within two years after the cessation of hostilities At the same time leaders of the principal political parties and communities in India were requested to reach a concrete solution of the communal problem This Conference also urged that appointments by Government and local bodies should be made on merit and merit alone Again, Indian Christians in general have repeatedly stated that they are willing to abandon separate in favour of general electorates At our recent Council meeting held in September 1944 we expressed the hope that the talks between Mahatma Gandhi and Mr Jinnah would lead to a settlement of the communal problem though we added that no final decision on this thorny subject should be reached till after important minorities and interests such as Indian Christians had been consulted at a small conference to be convened by the two Indian leaders Since then we have regretted the breakdown of the conversations On the Pakistan question our views were that we greatly preferred that India should not be partitioned into two or more units politically independent of each other and considered that a self governing India should at least start under one Central Government and should not be divided unless time and experience clearly showed that the interests of Muslims in India had not been adequately protected by the Central Government At the same time Provincial Governments should have a very large measure of self government being autonomous in all save a few subjects such as a majority community, in not accepting the then Muslim demand *viz* that when a Central Government came into being residuary powers should be

vested in Provincial Governments That I believe, would have satisfied most Muslims and probably shelved their present desire for Pakistan Another unfortunate omission was the non-establishment by the Congress Governments of coalition ministries in the provinces I urged this step in the United Provinces Legislative Assembly at the end of March, 1939

The Indian Christian, being a minority community, is as anxious as the Muslim for the protection of religious rights, and for freedom to practise and propagate one's religion, though anything in the way of coercion or undue pressure must be strenuously avoided in propagating one's belief. This is the general rule in most countries. At the same time one must not lay undue stress on stautory safeguards I remember a very prominent Muslim leader once remarking to me a few years ago, when I asked him why he should not be satisfied with such protection, that safeguards were merely on paper and were not based on effective sanctions. Indian Christians must depend and continue to depend ultimately on the good will of the two far larger and more influential Hindu and Muslim communities. They are as keenly anxious as any other community for an early self-governing India, but their strong desire is that, being a relatively small community and for the most part very poor, justice and even generosity should be accorded to them by their Hindu and Muslim fellow country men throughout this country.

THREAT TO INDIA'S COTTON EXPORTS

BY SIR CHUNILAL B MEHTA

NOBODY knows when the war would precisely end, although the final



SIR CHUNILAL B. MEHTA

Allied victory is well in sight Everyone knows what amount of sacrifice and service India has rendered during the war so that the war effort might gather momentum. Everyone would like to know what prospects the post-war future holds for India, particularly for agricultural India. The course of current events makes one chary of blindly accepting the millennium that is being vouched for the Indian farmer, particularly the Indian cotton farmer, after the war.

It is common knowledge that the Indian cotton farmer was bullied, cornered and crushed on the altar of anti-inflationary bliss while the war was on, by his own Government Sacrifices were imposed on him through the agency of a totally unjust and uneconomic floor for raw cotton so that the cheap or standard cloth scheme should be pushed on with success and the crores of India should be clothed at economic prices. Everybody knows what has happened to this standard cloth scheme, the production

of which has been minimised and purchases of which have been made a subject matter of choice by the various provincial governments The so called standard cloth having proved very unpopular, now the word had gone for the increased production of non standard or finer varieties Even so, the victimisation of the Indian cotton farmer continues The cotton price floors for the season 1944 45 have been reduced mercilessly at a time when the relative failure of the various anti inflationary measures has boosted living costs to the war time, if not the all time, maximum of 250 in August last and agricultural production costs have likewise flared

Will this miserable situation change as and when the war ends? There is little reason to suppose that it will Indications, in fact, are that the Indian cotton farmer is in for a very rough time It appears as if he is destined to pass from war time starvation to post war hunger and economic ruin through the economic warfare that is about to be decided upon by one of the leading Allied nations, namely, the United States The United States Government have in fact decided to buy the whole of the 1944 cotton crop in the United States at about the 1928 peak of 22 13 cents per lb of 15/16" inches cotton thus helping to maintain the high standard of living of the U S cotton farmer undisturbed for a good amount of time after the war On the other hand U S Congress has authorised the U.S Government to sell the Commodity Credit Corporation's stock pile of cotton at world competitive prices This, in effect, means that the U S Government will offer in the world markets 10 to 15 million bales of Government-owned cotton at a loss of about 6 cents per lb (the dollar equivalent of the price of Indian cotton being about 16 cents per lb) or at a total loss of between $ 300 million and $ 450 million Resultanly, the bigger fish might swallow the smaller fish and Indian cotton might even be permanently displaced from the world's markets For once the two price theory goes into the U S Statute Book, there is little hope of it being erased until greatest harm is done to the peacetime economy of the other cotton producing countries including India

It is time for those who framed, reared and enforced the anti inflation measures of which Indian raw cotton was the first victim during this year and the last, to revise their ideas about price control during and after the war Fairness demands that they should begin to think profusely and recommend measures that will enable, firstly, the Indian cotton farmer to secure an economic price for his produce and secondly, the country to retain her exports in the post war period on the pre war basis.

The best course open for Government of India to protect the interests of the Indian cotton farmer is firstly to negotiate and arrive at an arrangement with the U S A. Government for the purpose of equitably sharing the world's export markets for cotton on the pre war pro rata basis and, secondly, to do everything in their power to increase the per acre yield of cotton by providing cheap fertilisers and various other facilities and concessions whereby raising of cotton will be made a more remunerative industry than at present

RACIAL ARROGANCE IN SOUTH AFRICA

BY SWAMI BHAWANI DAYAL,

(Ex-President, Natal Indian Congress)

LAST year during the Easter Holiday a most obnoxious law was passed by the Union Parliament commonly known as the Pegging Act and rushed with indecent haste through both houses of Legislature The people of India vehemently protested against this racial arrogance. But the Government of India has done nothing to assert their claim of championship, though the Reciprocity Amendment Act was put on the Statute Book by the Indian Central Legislature to empower the Government of enforcing every sanction, including economic sanction, against South Africa.

I am sorry to say that the assurances of the Government of India to the Central Legislature and the people of this country have not produced any results worth the name and our people in Natal were left in lurch to mind their own business. After patiently waiting for several precious months and being convinced that the Government of India were not in a position to safeguard their existing rights, on the contrary the Indian High Commissioner exhorted the Indian settlers to behave like good boys and look more to the Union Government than India for succour, the Natal Indian Congress had no choice but to make some compromise in order to stave off further restriction being imposed under the Pegging Act.

Under such circumstances, the Natal Indian Congress was forced to make an unsatisfactory bargain with Field Marshal Smuts generally known as the Pretoria Agreement fearing that General Smuts would succumb to the intense agitation of the anti-Indian White element to extend the provisions of the Pegging Act so as to embrace all urban and rural properties including agricultural lands, which would have meant the death-knell of the thousands of poor Indian peasants, on the outskirts of Durban and other towns, who depend for their livelihood upon market gardening on lands mostly leased from European landowners. Though it was abject surrender of a great principle as in essence it virtually amounts to the acceptance of residential segregation, yet our people in Natal unreservedly accepted the Pretoria Agreement to appease the White settlers.

But great Jan Christian Smuts once again failed to honour his own Pretoria Agreement similarly to the Gandhi-Smuts Agreement of 1914 and the Cape Town Agreement of 1927 He has deliberately gone back on his own solemn commitments and is now seeking to segregate the Indians throughout Natal The Ordinance passed by the Natal Provincial Council is a violation of the letter and spirit of the Pretoria Pact and is more far-reaching and retrograde in several respects than the Pegging Act

The Natal Indian Congress has rejected the Ordinance in view of its contravention of the terms of the Pretoria Pact The Pegging Act was supposed to be temporary measure pending the findings of an Indian Judicial Commission to enquire into the allegations and grievances of Natal Indians. This Commission is at present sitting and although it has not completed its labour, the Natal Provincial Administration has

promulgated a number of Anti Indian Ordinances in addition to this most obnoxious segregation Ordinance and has thereby prejudged the issues involved, thus making the work of the Commission a farce

The Natal Indian Congress recognised that the occupation of property for residental purposes in urban areas, where the question arose of Indian and Europeans living in close proximity, gave rise to a racial friction which had to be faced, and for this purpose it agreed in the Pretoria Pact to create a machinery to control and regulate the future juxtapositional living of Indians and Whites But the Ordinance as it had emerged from the Provincial Council went absolutely against that Agreement in scope and in application and in the machinery which it proposed to set up and it had been clear that the Government have gone back on the Pretoria Pact and presented us with an Ordinance which only reveals a concerted plan for the wholesale segregation of Indians in the entire province of Natal

To a large extent, the matter depends upon the courage and conviction shown by our own Government in dealing with the Union Government intoxicated with power and racial pride The notification issued on the 5th November declaring the enforcement of the Reciprocity Act against White nationals of South Africa, is a good sign that the Government of India have at long last realised the futility of their present policy of appeasement The Commonwealth Relations Member, Dr Narayan Bhaskar Khare, has himself been compelled to admit to the Central Assembly that "our forbearance has been misunderstood and measures are now about to be placed on the statute book which, according to all the information we have had, will seal the fate of our countrymen for generations to come' I highly appreciate the feeling and vigour with which Dr Khare spoke in the Assembly. 'I wish he added "that India was in a position to declare war against South Africa here and now Had it been, I assure the House I would have lost no time in taking an army and being in the forefront of the field myself

But I am afraid that Dr Khare may feel humiliated at the unhelping attitude of General Smuts and his Government but he will not be allowed to use his famous surgical knife against Whites of South Africa and it is certain that the future policy of India Government towards the Union will be dominated by imperialist interests in Whitehall The Government of India are still hesitant about recalling their High Commissioner and enforcing the economic sanctions against that Dominion Since the Central Assembly has demanded with one voice that both the measures should be applied immediately, the Government of India must demonstrate their determination to act in defence of Indians abroad, and must not compromise the honour of India to appease General Smuts and his White jingoes of South Africa

The most unfortunate part of this Natal Ordinance is the result of an anti Indian agitation sponsored by the pure Britishers who formed 97 per cent. of the White population of Natal And yet the High Priest of British Empire Mr Winston Churchill, does not open his mouth to say

a word against this racial intolerance of his kith and kin in Natal or lift his little finger to save one member from the barbarous treatment of another member of his boasted Empire. Tears would trickle down his cheeks out of commiseration for oppressed Jews, the Poles and Czechs and the Dutchs and the Belgians, but not for tyrannized Indians of South Africa.

It is a pity to see that Great Britain which always stood as a champion of the weak and oppressed is so important now that she cannot utter a word against the maltreatment to Indians in South Africa. And this is one of the main causes of the growing bitterness against the British in India to-day as rightly pointed out by Sir Valantine Chirol in his *Indian Unrest* that "bitterness is intensified by the recollection that, before the Boer War, the wrongs of the British Indians in the Transvaal figured prominently in the catalogue of the charges brought by the Imperial Government against the Kruger regime and contributed not a little to precipitate its downfall"

And now Mr Amery has had the temerity to announce plainly that he cannot even make a formal protest to the Dominion Office in London or to the Union Government of South Africa, because in his opinion the matter was one which, in accordance with the recognised principle of inter-Imperial relations, to be dealt with directly by the Government of India. We are sick and tired with this kind of talk as Mr. Amery knows well that the Government of India is only a subordinate department of his Imperial Government in London, and yet he would say nothing to clarify the position of his own Government on the racial arrogance of South Africa.

By countenancing such legislation Gen. Smuts cuts at the solidarity of the so-called British Commonwealth of Nations and abuses the cause of freedom and democracy, justice and equality—the great things for which the United Nations are fighting the Nazi and Fascist dictators. The way in which General Smuts has committed a breach of promise and is now seeking to segregate our people in the Union, will remain as one of the most bitter ironies of Empire history.

The peoples of India and China, Burma and Malaya, the Middle East and the Far East are thinking seriously of their position under the White domination after the war. The self-appointed leader of Asia, Japan is making a big capital out of it and exploiting the situation by inciting the Asiatic races to fight against the White Race Supremacy under the leadership of Japan. But alas! Churchill, Amery & Company, High Priests of British Empire, are maintaining strict silence (*mauvrata*) and their great lieutenant General Smuts is busy in staging a drama of naked racialism at the cost of an unprecedented unrest and discontent of the millions of Asiatic peoples, which will in the words of Bishop C. J. Ferguson-Davie of Natal "The position is serious. If racial hatred continued, there is every chance of a war in 25 years."

THE THIRST FOR BEAUTY

By Mr B J WADIA,

Vice-Chancellor University of Bombay

A THING of beauty, we are told, is a joy for ever, and its loveliness goes on increasing Things of beauty are spread all around The thing that is really beautiful will travel through life like



Mr B J WADIA

a life's star, like a secret lamp that never dims nor fades Beauty dwells everywhere, and the appreciation of its loveliness springs eternal, like hope in human breast If any one were to take away from our hearts the love of the beautiful he would take away one of the greatest charms of life The love of beauty is a gift from God, as the poet Browning put it "O world, as God has made it! all is beauty" The thirst for it animates not only the hearts of our great poets and artists, but also those of lowly men and women, our mute, inglorious common folk There are degrees of this love, but it is innate in all men We can appreciate the quest for it in all quarters with the same intensity with which the lover of reading can unearth queer treasures from the nooks and corners of bookland In every man, irrespective of his country, and irrespective even of his education, this thirst is found Poets have written odes to earthly beauty and hymns to heavenly beauty But the common man and woman feel the whole gamut of it, from the beauty of the little wild flower on the sod to the beauty of holiness in the Deity, though they may not be able to give expression to their feelings It is the same thirst for beauty which makes the man of the town seek communion with nature at the country side on week ends, to see the shifting lights and shades of sky earth, and foliage in water laden atmosphere Why should we then speak of beauty only in its narrow sense, the beauty of the human form? Why need we worry over the length of Cleopatra's nose, even if it might have changed the history of the world? Why should we also affect the vein of the moralist, and discourse only on the beauty of honesty, of moral truth, and human goodness? We can bring down this thirst from the higher planes and make it dwell among the the poorest, the most illiterate, and least sophisticated of men, among all whose finer sense is touched by the spirit of God

This thirst for beauty is of the essence of man s higher nature It will even seem to grow more lovely as we ourselves grow in true culture and appreciation Faith has discerned in the beautiful the autograph of the Creator, written clear and broad on all his works "Nature is too thin a screen",

says Emerson; "the glory of the One breaks in everywhere". Beauty in life's more select moments is finely touched with emotion and with thought Its love drives some of our unlearned people to have coloured and ornamental articles in their rooms, coloured landscapes on their walls, and pictures of flowers on their doors. It takes man one step higher, and makes life one degree cleaner than the daily life of the slums and the chawls where poverty and darkness rule supreme Trivial as these ornaments, landscapes, and flowers are, they are still the A B C of the universal code of beauty. Why does a tenant with hardly five square yards of ground in front of his door steps plant it with flowers that hardly survive in the foul slum air? Why does the poor, labouring housewife who sees no rest from toil keep the little worship room or spot in her small tenement neat and holy for the purposes of devotion and worship? Why did the poet's heart leap up for joy on beholding the multi-coloured rainbow in the sky? It is because of this thirst for beauty, the desire for something that is not of the squalid everyday existence.

In the overcrowded cities, in all our humble villages, in all humble homes, this struggle is persisting, though vulgarity may have broken loose at the bidding of quick profits, thrown style to the winds, and piled slums upon slums in an age of reckless hurry. The heart always yearns for the beautiful, and the eye rests on it. It is a gift given to all alike. Socrates, however, prayed to God that he might be more beautiful within. Like Abraham Lincoln he too was not blessed with beauty from without. Both associated beauty with truth. Dean Inge has observed that Truth, Goodness, and Beauty are the three absolutes of the moral world. According to Plato beauty is the splendour of Truth. That is a conception of beauty on the higher planes. But the beauty for which we hunger is at out feet, in front and behind and around us. And its influence, from wheresoever it is derived, is inspiring and elevating. Even the sight of flowers on a table can rebuke bad manners, and make it difficult to say vulgar things A plant in the window of a city slum inspires hope of some abiding charm in those who tend it; and the bad man who still delights in the smallest garden is not entirely beyond redemption. For those more comfortably placed in life some thing of beauty is always within reach, and because it is within reach it is not often desired nor valued. But others have to struggle if they will have it. By the daily ugliness of their lives, made manifest by sight and sound and smell, they know the need of that which can beautify their surroundings Every man who tries to make in his front or his back yard a little garden, every woman who spends time and labour in arranging her room or decorating her window, every boy who neatly arranges his books in one corner and his bat and ball in another, every girl who even starves herself to buy a pretty article of clothing, everybody who is moved by the cheapest amusement which edifies the soul and purifies the tastes, is expressing his or her thirst for things of beauty, even if it is not in every one's lot to have the beauty born of the murmuring sound of the

water brook pass into the face To the man with an eye for beauty a road side pillar box can be as full of wonder as the star-strewn heavens Everybody sees beauty in sunsets and roses and moonlit glades, but the real thirst for beauty sees loveliness in the form and colour of commonplace things It was beauty of little things which Ralph Hodgson trembled on when he wrote these famous lines, in which he makes nature ask of a departed soul

> ' How fared you when you mortal were ?
> What did you see on my peopled star ?
>
> ' Oh well enough ", I answered her
> ' It went for me where mortals are
>
> " I saw blue flowers and the merlin's flight
> And the rime on the wintry tree
>
> Blue doves I saw and summer light
> On the wings of the cinnamon bee '

These lines breathe the very air of beauty and romance It is said that there was a curious custom amongst the ancient Greeks to place within the bridal chamber a statue of Aphrodite or Apollo, so that the unborn child might receive, through the mother, some impress of the beauty of the goddess or the god Young and old alike feel the spell Age or youth is not altogether a thing of years, or moods, or appearances, it is a matter of temperament, or of habit, and habit, in the long run is character You may be young, even though you may be grey haired, and old though clear eyed as a child Man's perception of beauty and its charm belongs to all his seven ages It is a sub conscious interest, but it is there, and if properly tended and stimulated, it will grow The war has destroyed many old values but the value of beauty is indestructible A thing of beauty is a joy for ever, and the love of natural beauty manifested itself long before nature was wholly subdued to man To all these things of beauty every man brings his own interpretation It may be dry and bewildered, if there is nothing in his mind, rich and appreciative, if it is alive to the inborn sense of the beautiful

It is in the cultivation of our sense of beauty more even than in the acquiring of knowledge that the hope of man's future improvement lies The future must to a large extent be moulded by our scholars statesmen and preachers But the artists are the dreamers of beauty and creators of ideas, and therefore the moulders of a higher life They love the principle of beauty in all things Nature, legendary lore, mythology, old places of worship, and soul stirring landscapes which the eyes rest on—they look upon all these with the eyes of a lover Their perception of beauty gives them the desire which translates the faultless vision into the equally faultless image Will they not have more influence in moulding the higher life of man? The more their message spreads, the cleaner and more invigorating will be the world we live in Learning and scholarship are not everything, for even our educated people are often insensible to true beauty One often finds among the poorer visitors to a theatre house or an art gallery men and women more open to a perception of the truly beautiful than others who are better placed in life than they are In India the number of men and women of this type is still small, but even those few give their leisure time to the study of the beautiful, for they have found the spirit of beauty More and

more people are still finding it, moving towards it. The more of beauty that sinks in our souls, the more intense will be our desire that some thing of its deep serenity and rhythm shall be translated to the daily, monotonous, often disordered life of this earth The world will thus be illumined by the conscious, even the unconscious, thirst for beauty, and the ideas that beauty creates. The dying Keats brooded upon the shape and colour of flowers, perhaps feeling in advance Mr de la Mare's injunction given in later times :

> Look thy last on all things lovely
> Every Hour

Thus do the artists strive to appreciate the beauty of the visible, fleeting Universe, the shadow of the ultimate Beauty that is eternal And they make us feel heightened, exalted, more alive.

An old poet once said that the gods sell all things at a fair price; he might have added that they sell their best goods at the cheapest. All that is really beautiful is offered to us as a gift from the maker. We are allowed to see the sun rise and set, to watch the clouds sailing along the sky, to enjoy the forests and the fields and the glorious sea, all without spending even a copper coin. The birds sing to us for nothing, and we pick up wild flowers as we walk along the roadside. There is no entrance-fee to the star-lit halls of the night There is so much beauty all around that the thirst for it need never go unslaked or unsatisfied. A thing of beauty is a joy for ever!

THE DRAFT HINDU CODE

BY DR KAILAS NATH KATJU, M A , LL D.

THE draft Hindu Code by the Hindu Law Reform Committee is a praiseworthy performance. The learned Chairman, Sir B N Rau, and his colleagues on the Committee have spared no pains to grapple with their vast subject as a whole, and the draft Code is the product of great learning and scholarship The draft is so far as it purports to be a statement of the existing law will be generally acclaimed for its accuracy and thoroughness But the authors of the draft Code have endeavoured to alter and amend the existing law in vital matters to bring it in accord with the needs of the times and the demands of social justice towards women Here they naturally have entered upon extremely debateable ground

Hindu law deeply enters and influences every part of the social structure of the Hindu society The Hindu law reform must, therefore, have the most far-reaching effect upon the well-being and future progress of that society. Laws relating to marriage, adoption and inheritance are important branches of our personal law and affect every individual member of the Hindu community. It is, therefore, not surprising that the draft Hindu Code presented by the Hindu law Reform Committee has given rise to acute controversy all over India. Advanced sections of

the Hindu community deeply influenced by western thought, culture and social institutions welcome the proposed changes and consider them healthy and eminently desirable Many thoughtful women also who are fervent believers in the doctrine of equality of the sexes and who consider that for the progress and advancement of the race an atmosphere of comradeship must replace all notions of subordination, welcome the proposed rights of succession which the draft Code confers upon daughters and other females Striking a personal note I may mention that my mother who died in 1939 at the age of 80 held very strong opinions on this topic and would, I imagine, have welcomed the elevation of daughters in the table of heirs with great joy

The most conservative section of the Hindu community—and I think the larger section—on the other hand is greatly alarmed and perturbed at these proposals They assert that the latter constitute a very reprehensible change of the deeply cherished personal laws of the Hindu community, which would lead to the destruction of the social structure and have a disrupting influence on Hindu society They think that Hindu laws and customs are inter woven in the very texture and fabric of our social organisations and any drastic change in the laws relating to marriage and inheritance will shake the very foundation on which the Hindu society rests

It is unnecessary to pronounce definitely on these matters but it strikes me that insufficient attention is being paid by both parties to the controversy to some vital considerations and historical tendencies The Hindu law has never been a static thing It is a mistake to imagine that what we know as the Hindu law of the day has come down to us intact and unaltered throughout thousands of years This is simply incorrect One has only to study Smritis and the Commentaries to notice how vastly the Hindu law has changed from century to century This change has been brought about not by pre determined legislation nor by the ukase of a despotic ruler On the contrary the change has been effected by the people themselves through customs and usages which have originated in the varying needs and local conditions of the different parts of India The law givers and the commentators finding such customs and usages in full force, endeavoured to reconcile the same with the ancient law treatises To such endeavours we owe the different schools of Hindu law now prevalent But this change has always come from within The Hindu society resisted all attempts to impose from without any change, revolutionary or otherwise Any modification of the Hindu law, if in advance of social opinion has proved a dead letter The law removing doubts as to the legality of widow re marriage is a notable example of this kind and in more recent times the failure of the Sarda Act furnishes yet another instance of the futility of legislating in advance of social opinion You cannot improve Hindu society by legislation The moral that I draw from past history is that if the present proposals are not acceptable to Hindu Community as a whole they will definitely not only do any good, but may possibly prove harmful For example if the Hindu community is

not prepared for the recognition of the justice of a daughter's claim to a share in her father's patrimony, it will be found that the law will be defeated by gifts *inter vivos* or wills in favour of sons to deprive the daughers of the legal rights conferred upon them by legislation, and this result may possibly deprive Hindu daughters of what social custom and usages provide for them in lieu of share in their father's property in the shape of gifts at the time of their marriages and other occasions.

The subject of Hindu law reform has given rise to a great public debate all over India, and both protagonists and antagonists of reforms are engaged in marshalling their forces and organising opinions for or against the proposed legislation But I think it will not be denied that the present Central legislature possess no mandate from the Hindu community to deal with a matter of such vital concern to that community This legislature has not only outlived all its utility, but it has become stale, and it no longer reflects public opinion Furthermore in 1935 when the elections to the Central Legislature took place, the question of general Hindu law reform was not even on the tapis. It would, in my opinion, be contrary to every principle of democratic institutions and representative legislatures that a task of this magnitude should be entrusted to the present Central Legislature unfortified by a popular mandate. Furthermore under the Government of India Act, the Central legislature cannot legislate with regard to agricultural lands and in British India most of our property and our national wealth is locked up in agricultural land Legislation governing that property can only be passed by Provincial legislature Such legislatures in most of the provinces are under suspension and popular Governments in the provinces have ceased to function. Whenever popular Governments are restored, it is obvious that such restoration would be preceded by or be simultaneous with new elections. I think it would be highly inexpedient and imprudent that legislation affecting the Hindu community as a whole should be undertaken by the Central and Provincial legislatures piecemeal. It is desirable that the Hindu community should pronounce upon this topic as a whole so that necessary legislation may be passed by both the legislatures simultaneously.

In view of larger national interests however I would strongly deprecate the raising of this controversy at this stage.

It is not merely a question of fresh elections and a new mandate from the electorate. It would in my opinion be extremely detrimental to our national well-being to throw this apple of discord at the present time among our people. We want to mobilise all our forces for the struggle for independence. It is essential to present a united front. It is essential to limit the area of public controversy and of debatable issues Everything can wait and must wait till freedom is regained. I fear that elections fought on any issue of Hinduism in danger might distract attention from overshadowing political issues. Unfortunately there is an element in our national life which holds religion above political freedom To such people the so called non-interference policy of the British Government in religious and social matters makes a strong appeal I recognise that much has been done to educate the masses politically in recent years, but still a great majority are both illiterate and superstitious To them appeal is bound to be made by political reactionaries among us bent upon capturing political power under the cloak of religion. Political emancipation of the country would thus be retarded. To me, the notion that we owe to an alien Government the protection of our religion and the secure observance of our customs and usages is degrading. We should be free first A free India would be able to manage its own affairs. It may reform and alter, if necessary, its own personal laws. Reformers shall be playing into the hands of imperialists and

traitors by raising issues which are calcul ated to cause legitimate concern and anxiety to those who do not see eye to eye with them There is still plenty of work to do both in the way of practical social reform and the propagation of ideas This work does not require any legislative sanction During the last fifty years organisations like the Arya Samaj and recently the Harijan movement inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi have carried on this process of education This process is in keeping with the traditions of our race In the past all reform has come from within and has never been forced from without India lives in its villages and I suggest that the religious reformers amongst us may do well to occupy the interval till indepen dence is achieved to popularising their ideas and opinions among the masses living in the villages This process will no doubt be speeded up by the spread of education in the countryside and particularly by the enlightenment of our women folk Till then I say go slow and do not seek to gain quick ends by legislation You would only be creating confusion and turmoil You may even fail in your object The British Government may acting professedly in deference to popular opinion, nullify and veto all such attempts at legislation, and thereby try to gain kudos as saviours of Hindu religion in the public eye

I do not suggest that reform is not necessary It would be lamentable if it were so No system devised by human intellect can possibly continue to serve those whom it was intended to bind and regulate for thousands of years There must be and there is bound to be considerable modification from time to time I am not, however, sure whether Hindu opinion when it is properly educated will accept the present proposals It might go further Daughters may even be allowed an equal share with the sons It may take another shape Be that as it may, I am anxious that all changes and reform must proceed as a result of mass consciousness

Our Rishis and law givers have in their all embracing wisdom recognised custom and usage as one of the sources of law This is one of the distinguishing features of Hindu jurisprudence Hindu law in fact owes much of its stability to the continuous process of development and modification which it has undergone continuously during the past many centuries as a result of movement of social opinion In one sense Hindu law is essentially democratic The ruler himself is bound by law and is not a fountain of personal law He is not a law giver People have legislated for themselves through their customs and usages It would be doing violence to the genius and traditions of the race to impose by unrepresentative legislative authority any serious change in the personal law of the Hindus without their active consent signified by popular approval And to be candid, I do not consider the present advocates of the sweeping changes proposed in the draft Code as truly reflecting popular opinion in regard to these matters Opinions may differ so widely I have my own But popular opinion can only be ascertained be a mass appeal

I do not propose to say much on the merits of the proposals Controversy has mainly centred on the laws relating to marriages and inheritance Conservative opinion is shocked at the removal of many of the existing prohibitions and by a wider recognition of secular marriages I confess that I am myself in favour of greatly liberalising the law in this respect Much of the present day restrictions are a result of customs and usages which have sprung up during the last few centuries The ancient law givers and commentators definitely recognised inter caste marriages These are mentioned without disapproval in Manu and each commentator has throughout the ages considered those provisions to be valid and binding I refer to Anuloma marriages Sons born of wives of different castes were considered legitimate and were entitled to a share in their father's property Moreover

from these ancient texts, there has of recent years been a swing in the opposite direction. Sub-caste marriages are now regarded with definite approval, and are becoming fairly common and have been held to be perfectly valid by the law courts There is strong reason to suppose from the tendency of the judicial decisions that even Anuloma marriages would be upheld as good and valid There is a good deal of discussion these days about the question of divorce. But conservatives among us overlook that in many castes and sub sections of the Hindu community divorce is practically recognised. Some years ago I was engaged in a case from the City of Gorakhpur in the United Provinces in which the parties were Vaishyas and the question was whether a remarriage of a woman whose first husband was alive but who had abandoned her, was permissible Evidence was given of a community custom under which abandonment or desertion of a wife by her husband dissolved the marriage tie and set her free to contract another marriage. The Allahabad High Court by a decision of Sir Lal Gopal Mukerji and another learned Judge upheld the custom as valid and also decided that a re-marriage of a woman who had deen so deserted or abandoned was also perfectly valid. This decision was affirmed in 1936 on appeal by their Lordships of the Privy Council, whose judgment was delivered by Sir Shadi Lal, (Gopi Krishna Kasaudhan vs Mst Jago, 1936 Allahabad Law Journal Reports) This case also definitely decided that all sub-caste marriages were perfectly valid under the Hindu law. I refer to this precedent here as an outstanding example of the movement of social opinion among the people themselves and I suggest that better results would accrue if no attempt was made to force the pace by hasty legislation calculated to arouse bitter opposition.

On the question of the amendment on the law of inheritance I should require more light. I am not convinced that Hindu society is ripe for such a violent change. Not that daughters among Hindu families are completely nelgected. They may not gain by right of inheritance, but generally speaking the same end is achieved by social customs making it almost obligatory on parents and other relations to give substantial dowries to daughters on the occasion of their marriages and on other occasions. In many cases to my knowledge daughters are ultimately better off than their brothers Then again what a daughter may not gain by inheritance in her own father's patrimony, she gains in substance as a daughter-in law in her own home Her husband's sisters do not get any share in her father-in-law's property and she and her children live to enjoy the same As I have said, if the proposed changes are in advance of social opinion, they can and would be easily defeated by gifts and wills The daughters may lose at both ends Customs giving dowries may fall in desuetude because of the fear of the law of inheritanae, and they might lose their share also by devices to circumvent the law Be it remembered that there is a vital difference between the law relating to marriages and the law relating to succession The law relating to marriages is after all enabling legislation. If social opinion is not ready for it, it will not be taken advantage of and will do no harm to anybody. If social conscience is opposed to secular marriages, they will not come into vogue. But law of succession is positive law If contrary or opposed to public opinion, it will do mischief. It will produce strife and destroy the peace of families and cause more harm than good to women themselves. It is, however, not my intention to discuss these changes here in detail on their merits. I suggest with all respect that taking a broad view and all the aspects of this problem it is desirable in the national interest that these matters should be laid aside for some more appropriate time.

FREEDOM FOR INDIA

BY MR WILLIAM PHILLIPS

[Mr Phillips' letter to President Roosevelt was written over a year ago but the issue raised by the President's Personal Envoy is still a live issue For, the Indian problem remains as yet unsolved while the approach to the solution suggested by Mr Phillips is decidedly helpful With Mr Roosevelt's re election by a significant majority, isolationism is dead and America is definitely committed to play her proper part in world affairs As Mr Phillips truly reminds the President, the war in the East has yet to be, fought and won and the impasse (in India), if allowed to continue may affect our conduct of the war in this part of the world and our future relations with the coloured races The authenticity of Mr. Phillips' letter has never been questioned and we make no apology for reproducing this important document released to the press by Mr Drew Pearson, the well known columnist of the New York *Daily Mirror*—Ed *I R*]

DEAR Mr President,—Mr Gandhi has successfully completed his fast and the only result of it has been increasing bitterness against the British among large sections of the people The Government have handled the case from the legalist point of view Mr Gandhi is the 'enemy' and must not be allowed to escape from his just punishment, and at all costs British prestige must be maintained The Indians look at it from a different angle Mr Gandhi's followers regard him as semi divine and worship him Millions who are not his followers, look upon him as the foremost Indian of the day and consider that since he never had the opportunity to defend himself, it is a case of the persecution of an old man who has suffered much for the cause which every Indian has at heart—freedom for India So it is presumable that Mr Gandhi comes out from this struggle with an enhanced reputation as a moral force

The general situation, as I see it to day, is as follows From the British point of view, their position is not unreasonable They have been in India for 150 years and except for the Mutiny in 1857, generally speaking internal peace has been maintained They have acquired vast vested interests in the country and fear that their withdrawal from India would jeopardize those interests Great cities like Bombay, Calcutta and Madras have been built up largely through their initiative They have guaranteed the regime of the Princes who control territori ally about one third of the country and one fourth of the population They realise that new forces are gathering throughout the world which affect their hold over India and they have therefore gone out of their way, so they believe, to offer freedom to India as soon as there are signs that the Indians themselves can form a secure Government This the Indian leaders have been unable to do and the British feel that they have done all they can in the circumstances Behind the door is Mr Churchill who gives the impression that personally he would prefer not to transfer any power to an Indian Govern ment either before or after the war and that the *status quo* should be maintained

Indians, on the other hand, are caught up in the new idea which is sweeping the world, of freedom for oppressed peoples The Atlantic Charter has given the move- ment great impetus Your speeches have

given encouragement. British Declarations that freedom would be granted to India after the war, have brought the picture of Independence as never before into the thoughts of the entire Indian intelligentsia. Unfortunately, as the time approaches for ending the war, the struggle for political prestige and power between parties has increased, and this has made it more difficult than ever for the leaders willing to reach a compromise agreement. Furthermore, Mr. Gandhi and all the Congress leaders, not to mention fifty or sixty thousand Congress supporters, are in jail, and as the Congress is the strongest political party, there is no one available to speak for it. There thus is a complete deadlock; I should imagine that the Viceroy and Mr. Churchill are well satisfied to let the deadlock remain as long as possible. That at least is the general impression in most Indian circles.

DEADLOCK MUST BE BROKEN

The problem therefore is, can anything be done to break this deadlock through our help? It seems to me, all we can do is to try and induce Indian political leaders to meet together and discuss the form of government which they regard as applicable to India, and thus show the world they have sufficient intelligence to tackle the problem. We must not assume that they will adopt American or British systems In view of the importance of guaranteeing protection to minorities, our majority form of government may not be applicable and a coalition may prove to be the one and only practical way of guaranteeing internal harmony. We cannot suppose that the British Government can or will transfer power to India by a scratch of the pen at the conclusion of the Peace Conference, unless there is an Indian Government fit to receive it. The question remains, therefore, how to induce leaders to begin now to prepare for their future responsibilities. There is, perhaps, a way out of the deadlock, which I suggest to you, not because I am sure of its success but because I think it worthy of your consideration. With the approval and blessing of the British Government, an invitation could be addressed to the leaders of all Indian political groups on behalf of the President of the United States to meet together to discuss plans for the future. The Assembly could be presided over by an American who could exercise influence in harmonizing the endless divisions of caste, religion, race and political views. The Conference might well be held under the patronage of the King Emperor, the President of the United States, the President of the Soviet Union and Marshal Chiang Kai-shek, in order to bring pressure to bear on the Indian politicians. Upon the issue of invitations, the King Emperor could give a fresh assurance of the intention of the British Government to transfer power to India on a certain date, as well as his desire to grant a provisional set up for the duration. The Conference could be held in any city in India except Delhi.

LACK OF CONFIDENCE IN BRITISH PROMISES

American Chairmanship would have the advantage not only of expressing the interest of America in the future Independence of India but would also be a

guarantee to Indians of the British offer of Independence This is an important point because, as I have already said in previous letters, British promises in this regard are no longer believed If either of the principal parties refused to attend the Conference, it would be a notice to the world that India is not ready for self-government and I doubt whether a political leader would put himself in such a position Mr Churchill and Mr Amery may be obstacles for notwithstanding statements to the contrary India is governed from London down to the smallest details Should you approve of the general idea and care to consult Mr Churchill, he might reply that since the Congress leaders are in jail, a meeting such as is contemplated is impossible The answer could be that certain of the leaders, notably Mr Gandhi, might be freed unconditionally in order to attend the Conference The British may even be searching for a good excuse to release Mr Gandhi, for the struggle between him and the Viceroy is over with honours for both—the Viceroy has maintained his prestige and Mr Gandhi has carried out his protest against the Government through his successful fast and has come back into the limelight

There is nothing new in my suggestion, except the method of approach to the problem The British have already announced their willingness to grant freedom to India after the war if Indians have agreed among themselves as to its form The Indians say they cannot agree because they have no confidence in British promises The proposed plan, perhaps, provides the guarantee required by the Indians, and is in line with Britain's declared intentions Possibly, this is a way out of the *impasse* which, if allowed to continue, may affect our conduct of the war in this part of the world and our future relations with the coloured races It may not be successful, but at least America will have taken a step in furthering the ideals of the Atlantic Charter

I offer the suggestion now in order that it may have your consideration before I return to Washington at the end of April or early in May when I shall be able to give you at first hand, further information on the subject

(Sd) Sincerely Yours, William Phillips

MAN: THE OUTLAW

BY SANTA CHAITANYA

Editor, "The Vedanta Kesari" Madras

WHEN Aldous Huxley said that the 'rhythm of life is routine punctuated by orgies', he was not letting off hedonistic steam but was prescribing for a common psychological indisposition How many of us feel unhinged and crave for breaking the monotony of routine by jumping out of the usual rut like the electron? It is a natural hunger for an abundance which is not in the cribbed and cabined daily routine an abundance richly productive of creative genius And we always return 'whole' after such deviations into out of the rut abundance Many

unquenchable thirst for higher achievement pushes them to prefer a physical crash to the pangs of non achievement In such cases, the suicidal mania partakes of some thing spiritual and evolves into a sort of intense 'divine discontent' So was it with many mystics who at a stage of their *sadhana* invited death to end the agony of non enlightenment If we join with the Holy Books in throwing these 'suicides' to the bottomless hell, then the Buddha would be one and Ramakrishna another The Buddha took his seat under the Bodhi tree with the words, Let this body perish in this posture, if Enlightenment were not to dawn on me here and now. Sri Rama krishna finding life without God realisation insupportable snatched the dagger from the hands of the image of the Divine Mother to run it into his chest But then light dawned and the agony of life without God gave way to the peace, serenity, calm and abundance of a God intoxicated life The world before God vision was to them a vanity of vanities, a ghastly apparition to be shunned, but when Grace descended it became the divine garment of God They were the messengers of joy and peace and light on earth and worked ceaselessly for the solace and salvation of others

The problem that these mystics solve through their realisations is the eternal antinomy in ethics of the cosmic *versus* the ethical, of the Pravritti Marga *versus* the Nivritti Marga, the problem that has vexed man from the beginning of history 'By the Tiber, as by the Ganges, ethical man admits that the cosmos is too strong for him The fact of opposition between Nature and Spirit, the fact that man's true life as man has to be lived in a foreign element, that the power which works in the physical cosmos is not a power that makes for righteousness, forces man beyond the actual physical universe and its order, to seek in a higher world and in a different order the explanation and fulfil ment of his moral life Intellectually, man might easily attune himself to Nature, for her order seems the reflection of his own intelligence But morally she answers not the human spirit's questionings and cravings, rather she seems to despise them It is natural then that when man gets the thirst for a higher spiritual life he despises Nature's laws and feels compelled to break them A strange mystery it is that, 'Nature omnipotent but blind, in the revolutions of her secular hurryings through the abysses of space, has brought forth at last a child, a rebel child, subject still to her power, but gifted with sight, with the knowledge of good and evil and so capable of outshining the Mother in his spiritual brilliance Man in his deepest being, is no child of Nature He is the genuine offspring of Revolt He is a self chosen outlaw but an enlightened one at that He cometh from afar, from God, who is his home As his birth certificate is higher, so is his true life and citizenship found in a higher world

Naturally all religions speak in glowing terms of a life that is not of this world, but of the Life Divine which necessarily must go against Nature's current as it is Nivritti and not Pravritti When religion dawns in man his faith in obedience to mundane forms and laws sets, he prefers

to be an outlaw within. But curiously enough he is a veritable outlaw even in the ripest stage of spiritual life. The Jivanmukta, the man of Self-knowledge on earth, the goal of all religions, says the Hindu seers, need not be a respector of the laws of the world He is a law unto himself He is the outlaw *par excellence*, but verily he is on the Aryan Path.

बुद्धाद्वैत सतत्वस्य यथेष्टाचरणं यदि ।
शुनां तत्वदृशां चैव कोभेदोऽशुचिभक्षणे ॥

Natshkarmya Siddhi, IV 62.

Buddhadvaita satattvasya yadheshta-charanam yadi

Sunam tattvadrisam chaiva kobhedoash-chibhakshane

A man of Self realisation may not observe ordinary social distinctions; but that does not mean he will give himself up to an unbridled licentious life. How can he eat a thing which he has once given up as impure, the worldly life? In that case what would be the distinction between a dog and a sage if both of them could eat impure things?

The Jivanmukta, like the dog, may not be a 'gentleman' of polished manners but to class him with a dog is as shockingly unreasonable as to punish him for a breach of a flimsy rule of social respectability, as if he were a vagabond The story is told that Sri Sadasivendra Brahmendra, the great Tamil saint, in a God-intoxicated state was moving about naked and was once passing through a garden where the Rajah of the place was engaged in his amorous sports with the maidens of his harem. The Rajah seeing the unmannerly conduct of the sage grew into a fury of righteous indignation and ordered the sage's right hand to be cut off. Modern Law will put Hitler and the sage in the same prison for both are breakers of law. Opposites look alike. They dance across the floor in front of the Absolute's shrine, obstructing our vision. We have to push them aside if we want a clear vision of the Absolute. The Hindu ancients have time and again asked us to transcend the 'opposites'-if we aspire for the life in the Absolute, for the truly spiritual life. One such advice in the *Mahabharata*, though it appears alarming, argues our point very ably:

त्यज धर्ममधर्मं च उभे सत्यानृते त्यज ।
उभे सत्यानृते त्यक्त्वा येन त्यजति तत् त्यज ॥

Tyaga dharmamadharmam ubhesatyanrite tyaja.

Ubhe satyanrite tyaktva yena tyajati tatyaja.

'Give up Dharma and Adharma. Give up truth and untruth Having given up both truth and untruth, give up that also by which you gave up other things.' This is the absolute position where all our pre-conception and nerves have no entry.

In the name of the Higher life are we asked to surrender those very things which we consider constitute spiritual life? Yes. On the road to Final Freedom, we will have to leave behind not only the worldly children of our dear beliefs, but also the 'spiritual darlings' of our faiths. In the absolute experience, the *summum bonum* of spiritual life, things are so unlike what they are in our daily unregenerate life that we must be prepared to turn our usual ideas upside down. As Jesus said, when the day of Judgment comes, the first shall be the last and the last shall be the first What is day for the worldly is

night for the Yogi and *vice versa*, says the Gita This supra mundane transcendental experience was pictured by the Hindu mystics when they postulated Brahman as the One and only Reality Being and Knowing in one, as Sat Cit Ananda Brahman, they said, is so unlike all that we know and experience on earth, as above speech and thought, is Infinite, changeless and non dual, for they knew that only such a transcendental ideal can lift man from the besetting sin of life, the sin of mistaking the unreal for the real and the finite for the infinite and *vice versa* If a philosophy of life aims at giving back to man his true Divine estate, his Perfection, and the saving Self Knowledge in the place of his self constructed illusion of ignorance and imperfection, it must forget all other things and concentrate itself on this ideal of the absolute experience Bertrand Russell echoes the same idea when he says that philosophy worth the name cannot take account of ethical notions "Those who embark upon philosophy must be prepared to question all their preconceptions ethical as well as scientific, if they have a determination never to surrender certain philosophic beliefs, they are not in the frame of mind in which philosophy can be profitably pursued Philosophy thus considered, comes as near as possible for human beings to that large, impartial contemplation of the universe as a whole which raises us for the moment above our purely personal destiny' When man hitches his waggon to the star of this supramundane, transcendental, out of the way ideal how can he help being an outlaw in the eyes of the world? It is easy to pace along the macadamised or railed roads on this *terra firma*, easier still to declare those heroic adventurous, self forgetful souls who speed up the railless, roadless azure infinity of the Spirit Outlaws For it is easiest of all to forget that Man, the Outlaw is Man the Master as well!

THE PROBLEM OF ASIA

BY MR JOHN GUNTHER

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THE population of the United States is about 130 000 000 The population of all Europe is about 400 000,000 But there are 338 000 000 people in India alone, and 475 000,000 in China There can be no decent peace in the world, no global peace, unless Asia is considered

The problem of Asia splits into three each, a problem of vast and complex dimensions

JAPAN MUST BE CRIPPLED

1 What shall we do with Japan?

Japan, like Germany, must be beaten, disarmed, and made incapable of waging further wars The first essential is that, for a time anyway, Japan must be controlled and occupied

One ticklish question is that of the Emperor Hirohito In our propaganda to Japan, we generally take the line that

Hirohito, whom his subjects think of as a God, should not be singled out for personal attack. Of course, this alleged divinity is pure bunk. Symbolically, at least, Hirohito is at the very top among the Axis guilty and he should be punished after the war just as Hitler is

America and Great Britain are pledged to cut Japanese territory down to the home islands This presumably means that we shall return Japanese-held territory to its original owners, with the Dutch, British and ourselves taking the Japanese-held Pacific islands.

WHAT OF JAPAN'S ALLIES?

But what of Japan's "Allies"—Indo-China, once held by France, Thailand, once an independent nation? There is no hint as yet as to the future disposition of these territories.

ASSIST CHINA TO TRUE NATIONHOOD

2. How shall we assist and stimulate China into becoming a modern democracy?

Let us be brutally frank China, at present, is not a nation, it is a vast, sprawling amalgam that aspires to true nationhood. Control is divided between the central government of Chiang Kai-shek and the Chinese Communists, who have set up their own quasi republic in the great Chinese north west.

Our whole policy towards China should be dictated by full hearted desire to assist China to true nationhood. At all costs, we should bend our efforts to prevent any further civil war there, and to encourage the Generalissimo and the Communists to get along together.

China is the great land mass behind Japan. Victorious China will control the Asian mainland fronting on the Pacific. It will most emphatically be to our own selfish national interest that China shall be united, progressive, strong and stable. After all, the root cause of American entrance into the war was China. So it doubly behoves us to aid her to achieve a stake in keeping the future safe.

INDIA MAY EXPLODE WITH REVOLUTION

3. What about India?

The great bulk of nationalist Indians want complete independence after the war; most British statesmen think the most that should be given to India is dominion status If no compromise can be whittled out, India may explode into revolution, even though most Indians are unarmed, ill equipped, poor and hungry.

More and more Americans are becoming perplexed and worried over the Indian problem. They ask themselves:

"If this is indeed a war for freedom, and if the majority of Indians do indisputably want freedom, is it fair to keep freedom from the Indian nation?"

Thousands upon thousands of American officers and troops are getting to know India. It is to be hoped that, that their opinion will lend its weight toward a fair settlement of what is beyond doubt one of the most difficult and dangerous problems of the world.

Post-War Reconstruction in Indian States

By SARDAR RANBIR SINGH B A , LL.B

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NOW that we can reasonably anticipate the end of this Great War within not a very distant future, the problems of Post war reconstruction in the Indian States demand early and earnest attention of all Indian States It is, of course not possible to foresee the actual duration of the war both in the East and in the West, but it is obvious that the country should now prepare itself to meet the unprece dented dislocation in the economic life of the country, which will ensue immediately after the end of this gigantic and ghastly war Therefore, far sighted Governments in different countries have already addressed themselves to this matter and are actively considering all the possible means and ways to minimise the evils of general dislocation in the Post war economic life of the country It must, however, be emphasised that the Post war reconstruction Programmes in Europe and in India differ materially in one important aspect In European countries, the most important item of post-war reconstruction is to repair the ravages of the war and to re establish the life of the community on a normal basis The economic and political forces let loose by the war situation have also not so far affected the civil life in India to the extent to which they have done so in Europe As such, the main problems in India after the war would be to adjust Post war industries and man power to peace time requirements and to deal effec tively with the problems of international trade arising from a large flow of imports and a strain on India's raw material— particularly those required for reconstruction and feeding and clothing of the starving population of Europe

The all India aspects of these problems will primarily be dealt with by the Committees set up by the Government of India The five such Committees appointed by the Government of India will deal with the following aspects of this question —

1 Labour and Demobilisation

2 Disposal and Contracts

3 Public works and the Government Purchases

4 Trade and International Trade Policy.

5 Agricultural Policy

The special problems for the consideration of this question so far as they affect the Indian States may be treated under three distinct categories —

(a) Preparation required in the duration of the war

(b) Post war reconstruction immediate ly after the end of the war.

(c) Long range post war Planning

One factor must however, govern all the aspects of Post war reconstruction for the States The Indian States came very late in the field of industrial development and they have yet much lee way to make up While India is industrially backward as compared to other countries the Indian States constitute the industrially backward region of India, which needs necessary protection and encouragement. It has been

calculated from authoritative figures published in 1939 that not more than about 2 per cent. of the total capital invested in industries in India is employed in the States. As such, the problem of Post-war reconstruction for the States is to a great extent a problem of Post war industrial and agricultural development All plans of Post-war reconstruction in the States must, therefore, be adjusted to the need for natural development of industries and agriculture in the State

The work required for the States in the duration of the war consists mainly of preparation of the statistics and collection of material so that they may be ready with plans, when the time comes, to adjust their war-time production to peace-time requirements and to turn their demobilised man power, technical as well as non-technical, to peace-time needs. This would involve inter alia working out in the fullest possible detail the number and qualifications of the trained technicians and non-technicians in each State who are now employed in war work so that their sudden return may not lead to disastrous dislocation At the same time, detailed statistics must be collected and plans worked out of the possibilities of industrial and agricultural development, including small scale and cottage industries. The potentialities of irrigation and of co-operation amongst the States and with the Provinces in the field of economic development have also to be examined. Another aspect of Post-war reconstruction, which may be taken up in the duration of the war, is of protective measures necessary to safeguard the land rights of the soldiers and of providing Government assistance in the collection of rents, extension of periods of leases or time-limits prescribed for payment of rents, revenue or debts, and land grants. The rights of minors and of the families of those who are on active service should also be protected.

The Post-war reconstruction work, which may be undertaken immediately on the cessation of hostilities, would involve measures necessary to preserve national economy from the impact of the aftermath of war, such as currency and price disturbances and budgetary dislocations. In the international aspect of these questons, the interests of Indian States are more or less the same as those of British India, but in respect of internal planning, variations would be required which deserve serious consideration of the States. These would include harnessing spare capital to productive enterprise, and the purchase or adjustment of requisite machinery and factories with the least possible delay. Similarly, agricultural and irrigation developments would require to be tackled urgently in accord with the national and international demands It will also be necessary to make arrangements so as to prevent the whole economic structure from being demoralized by a sudden cessation of war production and for that purpose the aim should be to taper off war production as commercial demand expands. Arrangements will have to be made for the orderly disposal of stocks already on hand or accruing under war contracts, so as not to break prices. The decline of public works expenditure can powerfully influence the labour market and the economic situation generally. The extent of such labour unemployment will depend on the decline in the output and

upon the degree to which labour in such industries can be diverted to other employments The extent to which such diversion is possible will depend not only on the qualifications of the workers concerned but on the general state of trade in the States and upon the volume of employment in the capital goods industries including housing public works etc, within the State It is therefore, necessary to arrive at an agreed public works policy with the object of accelerating public works as soon as the various demands for war purpose are stopped In this connection we should take into account immediately the possible projects for the construction of State and private buildings which may be expected to give employment directly or indirectly to the different types of labour There is also bound to be great demand in the States for substantial increase in social services particularly medical relief public heatlh and education and it is felt that it would be in the interest of the States that they should be apprised of the problems involved so that they may receive due consideration in the light of local circumstances

The formulation of long term trade and industrial policies is properly a matter for the Government as a whole But it is clear that practically every country in the world will be faced with an identical problem at the end of the war and the practicability of the emergency measures adopted by each of them will in part depend upon the general attitude assumed towards international trade It is obvious that at least to some extent the high policy in respect of Post war Reconstruction Plan in India is bound to be affected by the world forces and international schemes of planning While the stage does not appear to have been reached at which the national plans should be brought on the international stage and adjusted towards the common policy certain tendencies are apparent which may well be borne in mind and in this connection particular attention may be drawn to the fact that there is likely to be strong pressure towards the implementing of Clauses 4 and 5 of the Atlantic Charter The importance of watching the development of thought and action in this field is particularly great for countries such as India whose national income is liable to sharp fluctuations through changes in the level of international prices It is also essential that the States should be fully associated with the negotiations and previous consultations by the Government of India in respect of Post war policy regarding tariff international treaties agreements etc and the proposals intended to steady the financial and economic conditions after the war on an all India basis

Indian National Evolution

BY

AMBICA CHARAN MAZUMDAR

This basal principle underlying the work of the Indian National Congress has been one of nation building and the evolution of a national life in India and the writer with his intimate knowledge and personal experience of the movement almost ever since its inauguration has attempted to draw out the features of the national organisation with its bias or prejudice *The book also clearly delineates the aims and objects* of the Congress and boldly deals with some of the problems which sooner or later engage its attention for the fulfilment of its high mission

Note—A book which every young Indian ought to read and mark and inwardly digest

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INDIAN WOMEN'S PATRIOTISM

By SHYAM CHAND NEGI

LONG and lofty is their *amour propre.* Rajput women cheered and prepared their men for the safety and dignity of motherland They pooh-poohed a runaway and closed gates against him When occasion demanded, they resisted the aggressor and outshone the amazons of Peru, Dahomey and other lands Not only this, they even performed the rite of Jouhar—burning themselves *en masse,* in order to leave their fighting men care-free.

1857 witnessed their dazzling role Ladies of the imperial harem donned male attire, rushed forth, wielded a dexterous sword for their king and reminded one of the heroines of Appenzel. Similarly, the 20-year old Maharani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi played Joan of Arc She led a nationalist force, fought so valiantly and died so gloriously in the field that even the other side doffed hat to her

The Indian National Congress saw the light of the day in 1885 Congress shook and awakened the country. The suppressed daughters of India got up. They rent asunder the obnoxious purdah, symbol of all that is retrograde and scored speedy elevation. Today their patriotic legion is proud of Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, who is a scion of a Punjabi regal house, Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, who has shared her hand in steering the Congress liner as President (1925) and in various other capacities, Mrs. Kamala Devi Chattopadhyaya, who has fought freedom's battle not only within and without jail but also in far off foreign lands, Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali who is a formidable bugbear to the Government, Mrs Saila Devi, M L A (Orissa) and so many others

Their maiden fight for the *vindication of* India's rights and honour was in South Africa. There the notorious Indenture System, a source of deep injury and insult to India through colour prejudice and such black legislations as the Union Government's recent *Pegging* Act trampled thousands of Indian labourers whose perspiration swelled the pockets of ungrateful white drones. Mahatma Gandhi had to fight against stony Smuts. He launched Satyagraha. In the movement besides inmates of Phoenix Settlement participated Indian women from far and wide Cheerfully they streamed in and more cheerfully bore the severity. Mata Kasturba was released when she was on the verge of death. Jagrani, wife of the illustrious overseas leader Swami Bhawan Dayal Sanyasi, died soon after. Dinabandhu Andrews' *Indians in Africa* and the Mahatma's account of the Satyagraha reveal it adequately.

In India Mrs Annie Besant and the Home Rule agitation (1914-17) inspired them enormously. All India Women's organisation cropped up It stood by Gokhale, Dinabandhu and Mahatma Gandhi for the overthrow of the hideous Indenture System which was abolished by the Government of India in 1916 and finally by the Colonial Office, London, in 1922. In 1917 the organisation's deputation waited on Mr. Montague in connection with suffrage.

The Great War (1914-18) appeared, was fought in the name of democracy and disappeared. After Versailles (1919), Mahatma Gandhi stretched forth his hand

for reward in return to the invaluable services he rendered during the war even against the will and consent of his co workers, but came to grief Congress reins passed into his unfailing hands He changed its course from clamour to action

The Mahatma emerged from the delusion and launched civil disobedience and non co operation movement At his call girls boycotted schools and colleges and repaired to national institutions, *e g*, Mahila Vidyapith (Allahabad), of which the well renowned poetess, Mrs Mahadevi Verma, is the Pro Vice Chancellor, and ladies of all strata mustered thick around him, *e g*, Mata Swarup Rani Nehru stepped forward with her noted daughters, *viz*, Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, etc, and only daughter in law Kamala with her darling Indira They parched in the sun, shivered in the cold and bled under baten and bullet In the Punjab they faced calmly Michael O Dwyer's machine gun at Jallianwallah Bagh (1919)!

With the march of time intensifies their glory In his *Power of Non Violence* Gregg furnishes an idea of their sufferings in Dandi march and elsewhere Gudoloi Rani (1930), worked so marvellously in electrifying Assam that she has won the admiration of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Those were the days of Indian Carbonaris Terrorism was rampant Indian women shared in that too

The struggle continued and culminated in the Government of India Act of 1935, which led to the formation of Congress Ministries in eight provinces Women legislators were there, *e g*, Miss Jethi Sipahamalini, Deputy Speaker of the Sindh Assembly, etc The world saw a woman minister It was Mrs Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, Minister for Local Self Government, U P, who would have been unfettered India's Mrs Kallontay Mrs Naidu was in the Congress High Command which guarded and guided the Ministries through the Parliamentary Board During this period they contributed enormously to promote Mahatma Gandhi's constructive programme

But this was a lull before the nimble footed and indefinite tornado which burst out in 1942

In September 3 1939, Great Britain entered the war Instantaneously the Viceroy declared India's belligerency without the consultation and approval of her representatives It resulted in the voluntary exit of Congress Ministries The gargantuan Defence of India Rules came into operation and stalks about the country Ordinances sprang up and have multiplied Therefore against the inconsistency of the professed war aims of the British Government, Mahatma Gandhi started the Individual Satyagraha, the noblest and novelest in world's history, as a non embarrassing symbol of protest From alpha to omega he piloted it personally to the minutest details, *viz*, qualifications for and selection of Satyagrahis time and place of their Satyagraha, slogan and speech for them and so on Thousands of ladies were included in the selection Great was their zeal and enthusiasm, *e g* Mrs Manohar Lal (Agra) offered the Satyagraha with baby in the arms And it was a lady, Mrs K L. Rallia Ram (Lahore), who published *Why Civil Disobedience?* (1940) in support of the Satyagraha

Events moved faster and faster

In the memorable year 1942 was passed the 'Quit India' resolution at Bombay on August 9 The Government discovered that the Congress was pro-Axis and saw red everywhere ! War was waged to the knife. Congress was declared illegal And immediately followed a wholesale round up of Congress workers Thousands including women were detained indefinitely. With Mahatma Gandhi himself were gaoled Mata Kastur Ba, Mrs Naidu, Dr. Shushila Nair and Mrs. Jai Prakash Narain. Even minor girls have been detained, *e g*, Gopabandhu Chaudhari's daughter of fourteen in Orissa.

Howsoever Maxwell may exhibit himself as a John Howard, under the ordeal their health with that of the entire Congress fraternity has deteriorated terribly. Some are languishing away Some are in sick-bed. It is due to alarming illness that Mrs. Naidu, Mrs Kamala Devi Chattopadhyaya, Mrs. Parbati Debi Didwania, etc, were released. Some are in a precarious state, *e g*, Mrs Kamta Prasad (Lucknow); Miss Sipahamalini whom the Sindh Government is stubbornly refusing to release, which has been vehemently condemned in the Assembly by a European member, Mr. Fraser. Some have attained martyrdom, *e g*, Mata Kastur Ba.

Those outside the jail have performed their bit excellently. Immediately they stood up boldly for the Congress The All-India Women's Conference rose to the occasion and demanded immediate release of Congress leaders and unqualified independence for India. They formed and led processions, *e g*, Mrs. Parbati Debi Didwania, Delhi, did on August 10, 1942. They celebrated Mahatma Gandhi's birthday and observed the Independence Day. A very noteworthy instance is that of the students of Municipal Girls' High School, Ahmedabad. As a sequel to this, their Superintendent, Miss Kapadia, was dismissed. The girls were alive to their duty as well as responsibility and went on strike to protest against the dismissal In the history of Indian nationalism, the credit of exposing the Executive's heavy hand goes to a Bengali lady who cut the ice by challenging the validity of Section 26 of the Defence of India Rules and bore the palm, though the Federal Court's decision (1943) by an Englishman, Sir Maurice Gwyer, has been foiled by ordinances.

How great is their influence? Begum Fatima (Punjab) has undergone several sentences for the stirring verses she makes like Beranger. Foreigners, too, have grasped their power. That is why in 1943 English women appealed to them for dissolving the *impasse*. To the same end, invitation was lately extended to Mrs. Naidu from Britain. For the same America is anxiously waiting for Mrs. Vijaya Lakshmi-Pandit's arrival

Such incalculable services and sacrifices are theirs!

India will be innumerably dotted with memorials and monuments betokening deep respect for, and profound gratefulness to her daughter's emulating and endless part in her emancipation.

THE FILM INDUSTRY IN INDIA

By Mr SHEIKH IFTEKHAR RASOOL

THE progress made by the motion picture industry in India in recent years has been so rapid that the public, impressed by so spectacular a flavouring of local enterprise, fails frequently to realise that its origin is comparatively new and its history very brief

This, in our country, is largely the history of the firm of Pathe They were the first people to set about seriously the task of introducing the cinema to the Indian public, and spreading its attractions from one end of the country to the other It can, therefore, safely be said that practically the whole of spade work for the development of the cinema in India was carried out by Pathe's

Foreign pictures first came to this country in 1907, about thirty seven years ago, when they were introduced by Mr J F Madon of Calcutta The growing popularity of the entertainment which was regarded more as a scientific curiosity than a regular feature of modern life, prompted an enterprising Indian Mr D G Phalke of Bombay to conceive the possibility of an Indian motion picture industry designed for the entertainment of the masses

With the help of technical training obtained abroad, Mr Phalke produced in 1923 under the most trying conditions, his first picture which he called 'Harish Chandra' In the years that followed, growing interest in motion pictures was evinced and film production arrested a wider attention His other successes such as 'Lanka Dhahan', 'Krishna Janana', and 'Kaliya Mardan' had convincingly shown the possibility of successful film production in India and inspired more people to step into production branch

'BOX OFFICE' CRITERION

Shortly afterwards, Koh i Noor Film Co, Bombay Hindustan Film Co, Nasik, Madon Theatres, Calcutta, and Maharashtra Film Co Kohlapur, became prominent among early film concerns Motion picture technique was altogether new in this country. Nevertheless budding technicians were trying to grasp the fundamentals gradually by the only method of hit and miss The early subjects were mostly mythological, such themes being universally popular all over the country

Cinema theatres in the meantime were spreading up at several places by 1924 reaching to 219 and by 1927 to 346 The demand for films naturally increased Realisation of the immense commercial possibilities of Indian films was very quick Film producing companies began to multiply and about the year 1925 we find among other film concerns, the subsequently famous Imperial Film Co, Sharda Film Co and Krishna Film Co, coming into existence Production was now vigorously started and the 59 Indian feature films in 1924 went up to 116 in 1928

It was natural under the circumstances that every other consideration about themes and technique should be subordinated to the only thought of supplying the ever growing demand There is no denying the fact that box office has always been the final and ultimate criterion Since any and every film had a guaranteed market and profits, it

was no wonder that the majority of producers turned out 'quickies' like the British quota films

Mythological subjects were already exhausted, if not re-done and over-done. Then followed an admixture of fictitious themes replete with mystery, miracles, thrills and stunts There were, of course, certain works of Art, but their number was negligibly small It was during this time that stars began to shine on the Indian film firmament and became the food idols of millions of film fans from Kashmir to Cape Comorin.

FIRST INDIAN TALKIE

From Phalke's time upto 1931, there was little technical improvement, the producers being content to follow in the footsteps of American and British producers, occasionally scoring some successes with their silent films. It was in 1931 that India began to produce talkies, and 'Alam Ara' was the first in the new sound techniqne to be put on a screen by the Imperial Film Co of Bombay The immediate success which it attained offered a great incentive to the industry to adopt the new technique. Ever since, a few better films have been produced, and it occupies an important place in the country's life at the present day.

The importance of the cinema in India can hardly be over-estimated. The influence of the film in the Western world is well recognised, so much so that it is everywhere under some kind of State *control or* surveillance. Whatever may be the power of the cinema in foreign countries, its power in India is much greater. There it has to compete with established institutions such as the Press, the advertising agent and propagandist literature—all dependent for their efficacy on a high percentage of literacy. Here, owing to the low percentage, the competition through these media is comparatively less.

In order to appreciate the problem which faces the cinema producer in India, it is necessary to understand some of the special difficulties he has to face. The most important is perhaps the cost of production, followed by the language difficulty and the all important question of music. It is not generally realised that the Indian producer has to produce his film within a very small sum of money. The returns which he can reasonably expect on an average from his film are not large. This is not because the potential market is not great but because it has not yet had time to develop.

As a result, the Indian film producer is compelled to produce his picture for something like ten per cent of the cost which his Western brother can afford. The public cannot be expected either to appreciate or to make any allowance on this score. The Indian cinema-goer is bound to compare the technique and standard of production with that of imported Western films with a quite natural feeling ever growing in his mind that he is not getting his money's worth.

THE LANGUAGE PROBLEM

Then there is the language problem to which the Indian producer has to give careful consideration. Beyond certain special districts, notably Bengal and Madras,

where considerable markets exist for Bengali and Tamil films, the Indian producer must produce his film for all India in a language which is understood by a large proportion of the population over the major part of the Indian peninsula This is a language sometimes described as Hindustani and sometimes as Hindi It is in fact, for cinema purposes a simple Urdu with a large proportion of Hindi words than is normally found in that language

Urdu and Hindi speakers are quite naturally jealous of their respective languages Although many or even the majority of them do not themselves speak correct Urdu or Hindi they are fully capable of appreciating its beauty when their own language is correctly spoken by others This necessitates or at least makes it expedient, that the Urdu and Hindi words should be correctly pronounced and with the accepted intonation of the educated speaker of these languages

The film producer, on the other hand, must draw his artistes from all over India Good actors and specially actresses of the type he would like are not yet easy to find and, even if it were expedient he could not restrict himself to the very small proportion of the people of India who speak correct Urdu or Hindi or even to those whom these languages are their mother tongue Let it not be supposed that these are insuperable difficulties or a hopeless handicap, but they must be taken into serious consideration by the producer

This means for the Indian producer a perpetual and hard struggle to give to the public a standard of technique not too noticeably below that of imported film produced at many times the cost he can afford Incidently this necessity is a very fine training and tends to educate Indian producers on sound economic lines The Indian producer, in fact, is not brought up in that somewhat extravagant and profligate school which is commonly found in the Western world As a result, he may look forward to the day when he will reap the reward of the hard schooling to which he has been subjected

SOUL OF THE PEOPLE

Broadly speaking Indian music, as it has survived to day is neither designed nor suitable for the entertainment of large numbers of people collected in great halls such as the cinema theatre Mass entertainment in this form has never been a part of Indian life It is an importation and something quite new But it is here and has come to stay It is, therefore essential that Indian music should be produced modified or adapted to suit these new requirements

As designed at present it is chamber music intended for the entertainment of his friends by the Indian gentleman in his private house As a result, it is not uncommon to hear European music, indifferently executed, mixed with Indian music in vernacular films Nothing could be more inartistic than this There is no doubt that many things can be imported and imported with advantage but music is not one of them Not that foreign musical ideas and methods cannot be studied and used to enrich the music of any people, but they must be modified and adapted by musicians and incorporated with proper knowledge and great care

In addition to this, the Indian cinema producer is faced with certain technical difficulties in dealing with music. The composer of music, as that term is understood, in the Western world, has no counterpart in India. The composer of music in Europe is all important In India it is the exponent The composer does little more than select a conventional 'rag' and provide some simple melody into it. The exponent does the rest elaborating the melody *ad libitum* with 'tans.'

The result is that song is never, or practically never sung the same way twice This renders impossible the use of a very valuable technical method known as the 'play-back.' Either the producer, therefore, must discard this valuable piece of technique and suffer a handicap in sound reproduction, or the musician must acquire *a new technique For the musician this* necessitates singing and accompanying to written music, indeed an innovation.

FILMIC REALITIES

Coming down to the filmic realities, India is perhaps one of the richest fields for documentary subjects. There are many today who shudder at the name, but it still remains the foundation of filmic experience The world of documentary is a world of commerce and industry and agriculture, of public services and communications, of hygiene and housing *It is a world of men and women, at work and leisure; of their responsibilities and commitments to the society in which they live. In this respect Indian producers have to learn a good deal from their Western contemporaries.

It is a pity that, bereft of any filmic experience whatsoever, including a study and appreciation of the methods of the early French, Swedish and Russian schools, the Indian director and producer starts on a film career with no clear cut or any ideas of film technique or the possibilities of the film as a medium of expression. He is stunted with his limitations not merely of filmic experience but also another, equally great, that is, thematic limitation, the thematic limitation of Indian society as it is constituted today.

The result is that through lack of ideas and the possibilities of the film, the cinema in his hand ceases to be cinematic, the visual values are narrowed down to the strictly photographic and the film becomes merely a series of picture post-cards strung together, on a strip of moving celluloid like the peepshow boxes that thrilled our childish hearts. The mythological dramas, retaining *as they do their universal appeal, provide* a mass of easy escape from all filmic responsibilities and the cinema suffers in consequence and is reduced to being simply a series of shots without cohesion or continuity.

Another drawback in Indian films is that as a medium of propagation of cultural or educational or reform idea, it has done nothing on the lines of Soviet films. The cinema remains strictly an entertainment pandering to the repression of society by the presentation of the banalities of Hollywood. Besides, sex appeal has usurped all other appeals and values and warped us from a true appreciation or understanding of the functions of the cinema.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE

The Indian film industry handicapped as it is with both internal and external influences,

is finding actual production under existing war time conditions more difficult and exacting than ever before and present problems that seem to multiply than lessen No doubt our producers and those vitally concerned are doing everything possible to carry on as usual, yet it would be more beneficial if they devoted some time to give a serious consideration to economise the industry and place it on a sounder basis

The greatest danger today is not the prohibitive cost but the need of realising the essential value of economy and efficiency The financial and economic structure of industry in general has always been an important factor for its success and the film industry cannot be an exception to the rule These simple rules have proved to be commercially and financially sound, proving remunerative investments in every sense

On the education side the cinema is worthy of careful study in India The advantages of purely and frankly educational films need not be gone into here, but the educative value of the ordinary entertainment film needs careful consideration If the film producer is to tackle social problems, he must do so with extreme caution, specially in India where it is easy to offend susceptibilities A film in the truest sense is capable of bringing about reform gradually and permanently by means of its appeal to the consciences and hearts of the people, a method much more likely to be successful than any resort to legislation or other form of force

The film in India has a great future, both commercial and moral The future, no doubt, is bright, but it still needs a film Gandhi to turn up, a producer who understands films and strives to attain filmic reality in a world where human values are warped in a mesh of miasmatic insensibility May it rise to the occasion and make the best use of the wonderful opportunities before it!

THE RISING OF CANOPUS (AGASTHYA)

BY PANDIT SHANKAR SHASTRI, M.A.

THE drinking of the water of the ocean by Agasthya and the descent of the Ganges (Bhagirathi) caused by King Bhagiratha are not mere Puranic stories but important facts which have been described in Puranas in an interesting way to make a permanent impression on the minds of people

Varaha Mihira says in his *Brihatsamhita* thus about the brilliant star Canopus, Agasthya, who stopped the growth of the Vindhya mountains which were an obstacle to the path of the Sun, who gulped down and digested the demon Vatapi, who killed a number of Sages tearing their body to pieces, emptied the ocean of its water by the power of his penance and secured a permanent abode in the sky on the southern side The ocean being very holy, the Sages prayed that it should again be full of water and as a consequence the Sage Agasthya released water retaining the precious contents of the ocean such as pearls and diamonds, the cause of the brilliancy of Canopus The shining of these different precious stones with their various colours can be experienced even by looking at the star with the naked eye His sight through the telescope is more attractive and people are enamoured of his brilliancy.

The geologists described the Canopus as follows —As far back as 13,000 years before the Shalivahana era, the Canopus

was visible only to those on the south of the Nilgiris. At that time, Cutch, Sind, Marward, N.-W.F. Province, Bihar, Bengal and the narrow tract of Konkan were submerged in water, and the tract between Malwa and Nilgiris was an island. As this portion was surrounded by the ocean, all the Himalayan rivers independently flowed to the ocean The Puranik mention of Jambu-Dweepa seems to have been justified by this. The Vindhya mountains extending from east to west are on the 22° M Latitudes. The Canopus was visible from the Vindhya mountain owing to the change in the position of the poles, the distance between the South Pole star and Agasthya being 22° about 7,000 years before the Shalivahana era Agasthyahana, at this time, was visible on the horizon to those on the south of the Vindhya mountains and his extraordinary brilliant appearance on the horizon being epoch-making has been described in Puranas in a befitting manner Owing to subterranean movements in the northern side of the said Jambu island, the bed of the ocean was rising higher and higher and on this account the water flowed to the east and west giving rise to the Cutch and other tracts and rivers therein Though this is not directly due to the rising of the Canopus on the horizon, it has been construed to be the effect of the star Canopus, as all these occurred after his appearance.

There seems to be some close connection between this and the legends of Sagara and Bhagiratha At the time of the disappearance of Jambu Island, the ocean limits extended up to Agra. Owing to the upheaval in the interior of the earth, the water of the ocean having receded to the east, the course of the Jumna took an eastern turn. The rivers, Ganges, Gomati, Gogra, Sarayu, Gandaki and Brahmaputra, which independently flowed to the ocean before, joined the Jumna, remnant of the ocean. Really speaking, the Ganges, after its various falls, flows to the Jumna in its independent course. Though the Jumna is bigger than the Ganges owing to its confluence with the Chambla, its water became turbid and thus it lost its holiness and therefore the Jumna is not considered to be holy at Prayag (Allhabad) This gave prominence to the Ganges Sixty thousand sons of Sagara, at the instigation of Bhagiratha, were cursed by the same Kapila and consequently destroyed. The meaning of this, is that the ocean disappeared leaving a portion of the same in the form of the river Ganges. This is the famous story of Sagara and Bhagiratha.

Parashurama threw his arrows from the Sanhyadri, and caused the ocean to recede about 48 Kos (12 Yojanas). This story proves the existence of the Konkan tract. The method of finding the rising and setting of Canopus, as stated in Surya Sidhanta, is that Palabha should be multiplied by 8 and the multiple should be deducted in 780 The remainder degree, when it equals to the degree of the Sun, the Canopus sets

Again the multiple, derived by multiplying Palabha by 8, should be added to 980 When it equals to the degree of the Sun, the Canopus rises on the horizon.

It is a known fact that Canopus is made of various colours and when it appears on the horizon with a particular colour, the prediction in that aspect has been foretold by Varaha Mihira in *Brihatsamhita*. After the rise of this Canopus some religious performance and rites have been suggested in the Dharma Shastras.

When Canopus appears on the horizon, Varaha Mihira says, that people experience certain benefits The rise of Canopus will purify all water and thus healthy conditions among people will prevail.

JOHN MASEFIELD: POET-LAUREATE

By Mr DOUGLAS JERROLD

IT is right that John Masefield should to day fill Chaucer s place Chaucer the first Poet Laureate was essentially the poet of a society with a fixed hier archy both of persons and of ideas and yet a society in which social institutions



JOHN MASEFIELD BRITAIN S POET LAUREATE

and intellectual traditions alike were on the verge of disintegration To day we are approaching in Western Europe the disintegration of that soc ety wh ch followed Chaucer s the society which was born of the Renaissance and the Reforma tion The forms rema n Outwardly the picture and pattern of English life is as little changed from that of a hundred years before as it was in Chaucer s time But the appearance no longer conforms to the real ty

In Chaucer s t me the courtier the bishop and the kn ght had begun to be little more than a facade behind which the politician the preacher and the merchant were busily laying the foundations of a new age of free speculation and free commerce

and political individualism. To-day, the same is true of the world of the squire, the farmer, the manufacturer, the shop-keeper, the soldier, sailor, tinker and tailor—all that world of specialised individualism which gave to Western civilisation in the 18th and 19th centuries a pattern, individualist yet hierarchical—out of which sprung that power to combine freedom with order on which the modern civilisation of Europe relied.

SECURITY AS WATCHWORD

The appearances of that world still remain in England, but the spirit which sustained it is failing and in sore need of renewal That spirit was a consciousness of a purpose outside ourselves demanding free service without stint To-day, some men tend to regard the organisation of their own activities as an end in itself The modern watchword is Security—that Maginot Line of the spirit.

To this debasing conception John Masefield is openly hostile.

Masefield's long life—he was born in 1874—has covered the whole period of the fluorescence of their conception from the days of unlimited "progress" to the time of world anarchy The son of a lawyer, he himself was from his earliest boyhood conscious that life's adventure could not be lived in the already constricting frame-work of the world of his youth He went to sea, in the Merchant Service, at the age of 14, and was for the best part of ten years a wanderer by sea and land—from 1895 *to* 1898 *in the United States During* these years he followed every imaginable calling, and, we must imagine, hated them all, but he needed for his fulfilment the experience of blood and tears. The same compulsion took him into the Red Cross in France and Gallipoli in the first World War. "The heart of man", he has written, "can only be laid bare in the agony and exaltation of dreadful acts". He had to know hardship, danger and poverty to get the reality behind the civilised appearance of men and things.

MEN WHO WIN

Life's battle is a conquest for the strong:
The meaning shows us the defeated thing

So he ends his beautiful poem, *The Wanderer*, the story of a sailing ship, ill-fated in her first voyages, broken by storm and wreck and mutiny. But fresh men come to overhaul her and man her again and again, till at last she conquers the defects of her designers and her captains, and sails away. It is the ship who conquers. only the men have failed. But the men will not always fail There are good and bad, and some will in time be found to be worthy of the thing they have created. Even of such a creation as *The Wanderer*, as the poet found when he saw, years after the tragedies which had informed his boyhood's mind,

the Wanderer came again,
Came as of old, a queen untouched by time
Resting in beauty that no seas could tire,
Sparkling as though the midnight's rain were rime,
Like a man's thought transfigured into fire.

ACTORS IN A PAGEANT

In all his famous work Masefield has this same feeling for man and his creations as actors in a pageant, noble because without any meanness of selfish purpose, playing a part within a pattern imposed on man's nobility by man's limitations and God's will for man's salvation. So he must write of the men of the 29th Division and the

Naval Division at Gallipoli that, "they went like Kings in a pageant to the imminent death", and so he wrote best of his own English country in the eclipse, in his poem *August, 1914* when he saw it peopled by the unknown generations of dead men,

> Who century after century held their farms
>
> Heard as we hear the rumours and alarms
> Of war at hand and dangers passing nigh
>
> 'And knew as we know that the message meant
> The breaking off of ties the loss of friends,
> Death like a miser getting in his rent
> And no new stones laid where the trackway ends
>
> 'The harvest not yet won the empty b n
> The friendly horses taken from the stalls
> The fallow on the hill not yet brought in
> The cracks unplastered in the leaking walls

And then in victory—in 1919—when he turns again to write of the country he sees it mirrored in a meet of fox hounds and writes his greatest ballad, "*Reynard the Fox*" Here, again, men and women are acting, but in a pageant which entails no human tragedy Here, again, we have the good and bad, the rough and the uncomfortably smooth, the leaders and those who will never be led and those who must always be—set in the framework perfect for Masefield, of a pageant without purpose but full of meaning because the purpose of life is not man's purpose at all Man casts a play which he has not written

BALLADS WHICH MADE NEWS

Masefield sprang into fame with two ballads, *The Everlasting Mercy* and *The Widow in Bye Street*, written and published in 1912 and 1913 These long and rather sordid tragedies of the streets have historical importance For the first time since Tennysonian days Masefield, with those ballads, made poetry "news" It was an unintended exploit, but it began the renaissance of English poetry He brought the language of the mean streets to Mayfair just at the time when Arnold Bennett was bringing the social *nuances* of the provinces to London "As to whether" says Frank Swinnerton, "*The Everlasting Mercy* deserved the praise or the condemnation given it I can only say that it always seemed to me unworthy of either' Probably that is the right verdict It was suffering recorded, not suffering experienced It was brilliant journalism in verse, and the poet was lost in the poem which brings us back to Chaucer, for Masefield, like Chaucer, is not primarily interested in individual emotions Both these poets hold up the mirror to a society They see the individual in his tragic experiences but see that the individual is not sufficently important to be the hero of a tragedy

STORIES MISCAST MEN

Masefield's finest plays in verse, *Philip II* and *Pompey the Great* are tragedies, not of the human soul but of man miscast for a part beyond his strength His finest novel, *The Bird of Dawning* has for its hero a ship Masefield is the almost unconscious evangelist of the revolt from the Nineteenth Century heresy of man's self sufficiency, as was Chaucer of the revolt from mediæval obscurantism But both these great English poets were at one in this Chaucer, for all his consciousness of the weaknesses of his world, was a firm and loyal Catholic servant of the Crown Masefield, for all his consciousness of the weakness of the modern world, remains true to the belief in the dignity of man and his unqualified right to remain a free moral agent He is a true Laureate of his time—a time of trial and error in which Western man will learn ever more certainly the limitations of his powers and so doing, will reopen the gateway of his opportunity

The Lament of the Cartman*

BY MR M GOPALANKUTTY MENON

—o—

Thus have I come to the world's market—a rustic cartman with a cart-load of goods,
The morning hours have passed, and it is noon, but I find no one to buy my goods!
Caravans come in a long continuous line,
Some of them carry stolen things, and the rest have useless stuff.
But clever, indeed, are their drivers!
Aloud they proclaim the 'virtues' of their vans' contents,
And buyers flock around them.
My cart moves slowly, and spectators heed me not!
How can they know that the slowness is caused by the great weight of the bags inside?
My tongue is shy to call to the crowd and cry,
"My goods are the best, buy them"
When other cartmen newly become rich, eat and drink with joy,
Sitting in the shade of tamarind trees,
In a silent nook I stop my cart,
And look at the vacant space and sigh!
I grieve not though my things are all unsold,
But none cares to know their worth; this pains my heart.
Street-boys look and laugh at me;
They shout and put me to shame,
The evening will come, shadows will slowly grow to swallow light.
Then will I start for an unknown land through the lonely road,
Singing a weary song.

* This is a prose rendering of a symbolic lyric in Malayalam published by the author. In the "Lament of the Cartman" can be seen reflected the pitiable condition of a truly gifted artist who, due to lack of encouragement and adverse criticism, is unable to win his due recognition.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY AN INDIAN JOURNALIST

Congress Committee s Repudiation

DR. SYED MAHOMED has done a public service in releasing the Congress President s letter to Lord Linlith gow repudiating th e charge of sabotage and incitement to violence of any kind On reading the correspondence that passed between the Viceroy and Mahatma Gandhi in the course of which the ex Viceroy made far reaching charges of violence against the Congress Moulana Abul Kalam Azad and other members of the A I C C who were interned with him at Ahmednagar felt compelled to address the Viceroy d rectly on the subject On behalf of the members the Congress President wrote as early as February 18 1943

> I wish to make it clear that so far as we are concerned both as ind viduals and in our corporate capac ty speak ng on behalf of our organisation your charge th at the Congress ha l organised a secret movement of violence s wholly false and w thout foundation

The Government might or might not believe them But it was clearly their duty to publish this denial all the more because British propaganda was relentless in its malicious campaign against the defenceless Congressmen shut out from all contact with the world

Even after this categorical statement no steps were taken to make amends for their reckless act of injustice Why the Government did not make the slightest effort to ascertain who even according to their lights were guilty of subversive activity They pounced upon all and sundry without discrimination and made a hash of the elementary rules of jurisprudence To take Dr Mal mud s case

> he not only spoke and voted aga nst the Congress resolut on but act ually res gned from the Work ng Committee before it was passed The Government neverthe ess arrested h m along w th the others and detained him for e ghteen months.

So far as Dr Mahomed is concerned the Government have by setting him free admitted by implication that the charge cannot any longer be sustained What then is the justification for the continued detention of other leaders similarly wronged?

Indians in South Africa

Evidently the situation in South Africa is becoming critical The indecent haste with which so controversial a measure as the Residential Property Ordinance was rushed through all stages in the Natal Provincial Council has had dramatic reactions both in India and in South Africa In another page in this issue Swami Bhawani Dayal has described at length the sinister intentions behind this move of the Natal authorities In India the subject has been brought to a head by the Indian Legislature advocating retaliatory action against South Africa while the Hon Dr Khare the Common wealth Relations Member made a fighting speech expressing the deep feeling of resentment and indignation in the country It is significant that the temper of the whole House and of the Government alike is in complete accord with public feeling

As we go to press our South African brethren are making yet another effort to reason with the Union authorities They are meeting the South African Premier Field marshal Smuts with a Memorandum in which they point out

> The des gn of these Ord nances ignores the essent al un ty of our complex soc ety the pol cy to separate by removal the var ous rac al groups into watert gh t compartments is at var ance w th your utterances in the past summed up when you sa d that segregat on as we know it is dead

The Memorandum has urged the Premier to recommend to the Governor General in Council to refuse his assent to the Ordinances

The Field marshal has attained the stature of an Empire statesman It is difficult to reconcile his eloquent enunciation of world equality and brotherhood with the sinister and petty minded doings of his own Government Is it too much to hope that even at this eleventh hour he will intercede on behalf of justice and fairplay and put a stop to the egregious racial intolerance of his country men?

Black Market

Government control over the production and distribution of cloth does not seem to have had the desired effect. The black market is still carrying on a brisk trade in articles of immediate public utility and the cloth market has not escaped the contagion. A few can make their pile, but the public is left to suffer. Sir Akbar Hydari has therefore thought fit to give a stern warning to cloth dealers. *Addressing the merchants in* Bombay Sir Akbar said

> If there is no substantial improvement in the direction of eliminating the black market in cloth during the next two months, the Government of India will, with the support of the public and the co operation of the cotton manufacturing industry take such measures as will wipe you out of the trade

He, however, hoped that better counsels would prevail. Black market thrives only because a section of the public is encouraging it. It is the duty of the public to co operate with the authorities in rooting out the black market not in cloth only but in many other articles of public utility which have a strange way of disappearing from the view of the common customer. It is up to the Government to trace the culprit and bring him to book in the interest of public security.

Tamil writers in Conference

For the first time Tamil writers and journalists met in Conference at Coimbatore under the presidentship of the popular journalist, Mr T. S Chockalingam, Editor of the well known Tamil daily *Dinasari*. Coimbatore, besides being an industrial centre, has a reputation for its patronage of Tamil periodicals. There was a large gathering of journalists from all Tamilnad and from Ceylon also and the proceedings were marked by evident enthusiasm. Sri Va Ra who inaugurated the Session is one of the most versatile of Tamil writers, while Mr. Chockalingam himself dealt vigorously with various aspects of vernacular journalism. Out of several resolutions passed at the Session mention must be made of one which criticised the A.I.N.E C. for the discriminating treatment accorded to the Indian languages journalist in the matter of pay. There is certainly no need for this discrimination as vernacular journalism has come into its own and *Tamil papers are in no* way behind the English dailies either in influence or circulation. It must be said in fairness that not all members of the A.I.N.E C. voted for the resolution which was the subject of a such a heated debate in the Coimbatore Conference.

On the matter of improving the economic side of the Tamil writers, the conference has decided on a scheme of group insurance for which we are told, preliminary work has been already started.

Congress-League Collaboration

Congress-League collaboration which was working so effectively in the last session of the Assembly is proving equally effective in the present session. There was some danger of their working at cross purposes at the opening of the session but common interest and the fruit-fulness of joint action have proved too strong for dissension on the floor of the House. Thus the Assembly passed without division the *Congress* Party motion that an elected Committee of the House, consisting of not more than fifteen members, be appointed for the purpose of considering several plans for the post-war economic development of India, agricultural and industrial, with instructions to report to the House. The motion had been moved by Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar as an amendment to Sir Ziauddin Ahmed's original resolution opposing the Bombay Plan.

An exciting situation developed before the House voted on the amendment and passed it. Towards the close of the debate Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, Leader of the Opposition, spoke in support of the amendment. After him the Supply Member Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar got up, whereupon there were cries from the Opposition benches asking for closure of the debate.

The Government challenged a division on the closure motion, but the House passed the motion by 55 votes to 46, the Congress, Muslim League and some members of the *Nationalist* Party combining to vote for it.

Pandit Nehru's Birthday

Pandit Jawaharlal is in prison but his fifty fifth birthday has been celebrated in London and elsewhere It is not surprising for the Pandit is decidedly one of the top men of our time and generation, and the wonder is that men of his ilk have to rot in prison It is a tragedy that he should have been forced to spend no less than 15 years of the best period of his life in prison No wonder that most of those who sent their greetings on the occasion referred to this most distressing feature of our civilization—that society should have found no better use for such as he ' Jawaharlal is a jewel among men cabled the Mahatma who is no stranger to prison life

Happy is the land that owns h m Something s rad cally wrong with the system that has no better use of persons like him than as prisoners

That Jawaharlal Nehru should be in prison is a sufficient indictment of British rule ' observed Mr Fenner Brockway in his message

The wrong is rendered more intolerable by the fact that in the stature of his ability and personal ty l e is a g ant compared with tl e l ttle statesmen wl o keep him in gaol

Dr Harold Laski declared that he knew no figure in contemporary politics

of greater nobil ty than he and no greater proof of the failure of Br tish system in Ind a than that he should be in jail instead of being the Prime Minister of a free Ind a

The November issue of the *Voice of India* published in Washington is dedicated to Nehru in honour of his fifty fifth birthday To the writer Nehru is amazingly like our own Thomas Jifferson

The fact that he (Nehru) has spent the best part of his adult life in Brit sh pr sons is to me a chief atroc ty of the modern age Noth ng can excuse it

Nor is our new Under Secretary Lord Listowel, wanting in appreciation of or respect for the Pandit s sincerity and strength of purpose as he is fully convinced that he has a leading part to play in the future of India This is more than good testimony coming from one next in authority to Mr Amery But if what his lordship says is his sincere opinion how can he conscientiously be a party to Pandit Nehru s detention ?

Recruitment to All India Services

India is promised full self rule after the War but the way that Mr Amery and the Tory Imperialists are preparing for that contingency does not seem promising Lest anything in the way of freedom should hamper their action in the future they are taking care to dump the country with their own men Already on the plea of war exigency the importation of foreign experts has continued unabated Newer and newer appointments are created and filled in by Europeans Army officers are freely drawn out to fill in civil posts

Important decisions have been taken with regard to the recruitment of the Indian Civil Service and the Indian police service and military officers are being employed in many civil posts without any previous reference to or consultation with the legislatures The joint statement issued by Sir N N Sircar and Kunwar Sir Jagadish Prasad Ex members of the Viceroy's Executive Council calls pointed attention to this distressing feature in the recruitment to the I C S and the Police Services

What is st ll more disquieting is that the proportion of European and Indian recru ts in these two Services continues unaltered since it was fixed by the Lee Comm ssion twenty years ago Assuming for a moment—by no means a far fetche l assumption—that the Secretary of State will not easily give up his control and assuming further that a number of vacancies w ll be permanently fill d by nominat on from among candidates with approved war service is there any justification for maintaining a proportion of 50 50 between the Ind an and the European ? Has not the time come to stop all future European recruitment to these two Services ?

Surely there is no dearth of Indians who have admittedly distinguished themselves in military service and who can fill them with distinction

Ban on Satyartha Prakash

The order passed by the Sind Government prohibiting the publication of Satyartha Prakash by Swami Dayanda Sarasvati founder of the Arya Samaj except in a mutilated form is highly objectionable Satyartha Prakash is regarded as their scripture by the Arya Samajists quite in the same way as the Koran is held by the Muslims and the Bible by the Christians and the action of the Sind Ministry is naturally resented widely

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

The King's Speech

Britain's determination rapidly to reinforce the *United Kingdom forces in the fight* against Japan was one of the keynote of the King's speech when opening the new session of Parliament on November 29 He said, "In the war against Japan the enemy is being thrown back from India and my American ally continues to reduce the shrinking area still under Japanese control in the Pacific. We intend to *reinforce as rapidly and powerfully* as possible the United Kingdom forces who are now sharing, with their comrades from all parts of the British Commonwealth and Empire and from the United States, China, the Netherlands and France, the burden of the struggle against Japan."

The King also said "The United Nations look back on a year of resounding achievements. They now look forward with greater confidence than even before to those final victories which will give to the peoples of the world a just peace which is our chief desire."

Mr. Churchill's warning

Mr. Churchill warned Britain against the *feeling that the war would soon be over.* Speaking in the Commons during the debate on the King's speech, he said

I must warn the House and the country against any indulgence in the feeling that the war will soon be over. It may be, but do not indulge in that feeling that we should now be able to turn our thoughts to a new phase in world history which will open with the close of this war

The truth is that no one knows when the German war will be finished and still less how long the interval will be between the defeat of the Germans and the defeat of the Japanese. I took occasion some months ago to damp down premature hopes by speaking of the German war as running into January—February

I could see disappointment in several quarters as I looked round the House and I followed this up quickly by indicating last spring or early summer as the periods which we must take into account as possibilities My present inclination is not at all to multiply those forecasts or guesses —for they can be little more than guesses. Indeed, if I were to make any change in the duration of the unfolding of events, it would be to leave out the word 'early' before the word 'summer'.

The King's Tribute to Indian Troops

In his speech proroguing Parliament the King, reviewing the events of the past year, said: "In Burma, my 14th Army, including the African colonial forces and aided by the forces of the United States and China has turned the attempted Japanese invasion of India into a disastrous retreat. In this campaign my Indian forces contributed brilliantly to the defence of their country."

Lord Halifax on British Empire

The British Ambassador to the United States, Lord Halifax, told the Annual Convention of Investment Bankers at Chicago on November 28 that the British Empire was not a money-making racket. He said:

"I hear Americans speak of the British Empire as if it were some huge racket based on naked force living by exploitation and existing only to bring money into Britain, that Britain has no moral right to touch. That picture lives regardless of the fact that from no part of the British Commonwealth or Empire does the British Treasury draw a fraction of a cent's profit."

Turning to the economic problems Lord Halifax said, "Lend Lease enabled us to fight the war without bothering about our exports. Its termination will leave us vitally and immediately dependent on their recovery."

Crisis in Canada

Prime Minister Mackenzie King, addressing the Canadian Parliament on the Conscription issue, said that Canada faced the possibility of "anarchy" unless Parliament could unite behind a Government that could carry on. He disclosed that Canadian troops are now fighting on German soil in some places.

Mr. Mackenzie King said that he would resign unless he got sufficient support from his own party on the vote of confidence. He added he would not carry *on with* only a low majority.

The House of Commons went into secret session on November 27 at Mr. Mackenzie King's request, on the conscription issue.

Allied Objectives in Burma

Since the fall of Myitkyina the Allied armies in North Burma have been sweeping southwards with ever increasing rapidity until now they are fighting on an almost unbroken front of 800 miles from the Chin hills in the west to the Salween in the east

From Imphal we are told the Fifth Indian Division made a 200 mile advance through Tiddim and Fort White to Kalemyo Down the Kabaw and Kale valleys East Africans advanced 70 miles to capture Kalemyo where they linked up with the Fifth Indian Division Now our troops are pushing east from Kalemyo to Kalewa 16 miles away on the west bank of the Chindwin We are also continuing our push south down the Kale Valley from Kalemyo

East Africans are also fighting their way down both banks of the Chindwin Presumably they will link up with the forces advancing from Kalemyo and take part in the fight for Kalewa

Britain's War Effort

In five years of war Britain s 45 million people produced more than 100 000 planes nearly 8 000 naval vessels and 6¾ million dead weight tons of merchant shipping and raised a force of 4 500 000 fighting men The approach of victory prompted the Government for the first time to release these dramatic figures of the United Kingdom war effort Till now they had been highly secret but a White Paper issued on November 28 said As the result of the change in the military situation it is no longer necessary to withhold some of this information

The Government publication tells the story of John Bull in anger It tells how against the background of complete black out under a rain of bombs and shells with homes shattered and broken the ordinary man and woman forged weapons for the victorious war saved immense sums and suffered and overcame many adversities of the nation in front line The devastation caused by the German air attacks is shown by the fact that out of every three houses throughout Britain one has been damaged For every three Britons killed on the battlefronts from Singapore to Siegfried Line one died on the home front Yet the nation mobilised itself 100 per cent Seven million men went to the industry and seven million women to the industry the services and civil defence A Home Guard of 1¾ million men stood behind the fighting services Only married women with domestic responsibilities children invalids and men over 61 remained outside the total war effort and even many of these were included in it

New Polish Cabinet

Since the Polish Premier M Mikolajczyk has resigned writes the Political Correspondent of United Press of India it can now be stated with some authority that Mr Churchill in his recent talks with Marshal Stalin in Moscow had virtually agreed to Russia s claim to the Curzon Line M Stalin on his part is understood to have guaranteed to future Poland its sovereignty and national independence It is also stated in responsible circles that the American President is in general agreement with M Stalin and Mr Churchill on the question of Poland

M Jan Kwapinki the Socialist leader and Deputy Primier in the last Polish Cabinet has assumed charge of Government

President Roosevelt s Re election

Franklin D Roosevelt for 8 terms President of the United States from 1933 (he was elected in November 1932) has been elected for a fourth term No other President has served the United States for more than two terms

Long before returns of the election had been completed that Thomas F Dewey the Republican nominee for the Presidentship had conceded re election to President Roosevelt with the words It is clear that Roosevelt has been re elected for his fourth term

All over America voters accepted the verdict although the returns were far from complete Roosevelt won by a decisive majority of over 2½ million votes

BRITAIN AND CANADA By Gerald S Graham Longmans Green & Co Bombay and Madras

Mr Graham has written an excellent pamphlet on the origin and development of Canada and her relations with the mother country It is particularly interesting because Canada is a dual national state and the problem of reconciling the viewpoints and the interests of the French and the British in Canada has not always been easy Mr Graham traces the main outlines clearly and well the Constitutional Act of 1791 the famous Durham Report of 1839 and the Nation Act of 1840 the British North America Act of 1867 the efforts of administrators towards welding together a loosely joined half continent into some kind of national state and the achievement of dominion status We commend this pamphlet to the student and the publicist

THE INDIAN RURAL PROBLEM By Sir Manilal B Nanavati Ex Deputy Governor Reserve Bank of India and J J Anjaria Reader in Economics University of Bombay (The Indian Society of Agricultural Economics Bombay)

This is the first publication of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics undertaken in pursuance of its new programme of activities given at the end as appendix section C Sir M B Nanavati and Professor Anjaria say that the Indian rural problem means fundamentally the raising of the standard of living of the masses in the rural parts the industrial progress having been slow and lopsided there has been practically no improvement in the standard of life of the people particularly in the rural parts while the increasing ruralisation due to the defects of industrialisation has resulted in increasing pressure of the soil A revitalisation of rural economy is as pressing a need as the industralisation of the country

The first part of the monograph deals with the facts of rural economy it devotes special attention to social services in their reaction on rural life In the next part those measures are detailed by which Government and other agencies have been trying to develop an agricultural policy and still failing to evolve a comprehensive one

The third and final part of the work is devoted to what is called Constructive Rural Sociology and a description of the essentials of planning for the organisation of the land system and for solving the problems of surplus population and rural unemployment The authors end with a note of hope and urge quick and determined action on a large scale with no mental reservations of any sort The book is a valuable addition to the growing literature on national reconstruction essential and inevitable at the present day

THE PARIS COMMUNE By Karl Marx and V Lenin Peoples Publishing House Bombay Re 1 8

This short and stimulating tract gives us a remarkable account of the revolt of the workingmen of Paris in 1871 against the crew of betrayers of people who joined the Prussian invaders of France It is notable in history because it is the first instance in which a body of united workers rise in revolt and set up a Government of their own inaugurating many far reaching political and social reforms Though the commune was crushed by the French militarists with violence Marx still thought that it lived in the spirit of the working class The value of the volume is considerably enhanced by the series of woodcuts and commentaries by the American artist Siegel

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE INDIAN VILLAGE A Ten year Plan An interesting programme of village reconstruction By K S Venkataramani Svetaranya Ashrama Mylapore Madras

MEENDUM VAAZHNDAAL. In Tamil A charming record of recollections and experences written in racy conversational style By the Rt Honble V S Srinivasa Sastri Kalamagal Aryalayam Mylapore Madras Rs 2)

ON THE PEASANTRY By J V Stalin Peoples Publishing House Raj Bhawan Sandhurst Road Bombay 4

GROW MORE FOOD IN THE UNITED PROVINCES By B R Misra Benares Hindu University Madras

THE PICAROON AND THE BURGLAR TOOLS By Hernnan London Thacker & Co Bombay

PANTOPEA A united permanent peaceful progressive and just world order By A G Montero Popular Book Depot Lamington Road Bombay

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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Nov. 1. Dr. Syed Mahomed's letter to Lord Linlithgow is released.

—Utkal University inagurated at Cuttack.

Nov. 2. Madras city meeting pleads for extension of H E Sir Arthur Hope's tenure.

Nov. 3 Central Assembly discusses Bombay plan.

—New German secret weapon is disclosed.

Nov. 4. Official Committees' post-war proposals published.

—Governments' retaliatory measures against S Africa indicated in a press note.

Nov. 5. Kasturba Fund trustees meet at Wardha.

Nov. 6. Assembly votes retaliatory move against S. Africa.

—Lord Moyne, *British Resident Minister* in Cairo, is shot dead.

Nov. 7. Super-fortresses over Tokyo.

—Stalin reviews the war.



PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

Nov. 8. Roosevelt re-elected President of U.S. for a fourth term.

Nov. 9. Sir T. B. Sapru meets Gandhiji.

—*Satyartha Prakash* proscribed by Sind Government.

Nov. 10 Mr. Churchill's statement in the Commons on German long range rockets.

Nov. 11. Dr. Jivaraj Mehta inagurates Association of Physicians at Madras.

Nov. 12. Text of Phillips' letter to Roosevelt published.

Nov. 13. Tirpitz, giant German battleship, sunk.

—Anti Segregation Conference in Durban demands recall of High Commissioner.

Nov. 14. Jawaharlal's 55th birthday is celebrated in London, and New York besides many centres in India.

Nov. 15. Himmler made C-in-C of Defence forces of Reich

Nov. 16 Speaking at Madras Rt. Hon. Sastri calls on Indians to support Government's "prompt and manly action".

Nov. 17. In the Council of State the C in C gives figures of Indian army casualties.

Nov 18 Non Party Leaders' Committee meets at Delhi.

Nov. 19. The French enter Alsace.

—Ceylon Reforms Commission announced.

Nov. 20. French troops enter Belfort.

Nov. 21. Home Member reveals that 10,356 Congressmen were undergoing imprisonment on Oct. 1.

Nov. 22. Sir Arthur Eddington is dead.

—U.S. troops capture Sarrebourg.

Nov. 23. Earl of Listowel pleads for freedom for India at a Conference of representatives of Indian newspapers in London.

Nov. 24. Viceroy prorogues the session of the Indian Legislative Assembly.

Nov. 25. C. R. in his Nagpur Convocation address suggests arbitration for settlement in India.

Nov. 26. Gandhiji signs Kasturba Memorial Trust deed.

Nov. 27. Mr. Cordell Hull resigns. Mr. Stettinius nominated in his place.

Nov. 28. A White Paper recording Britain's war output is issued.

Nov. 29. Indian deputation meets General Smuts.

Nov. 30. New Polish Cabinet formed.

—Chicago Air Conference breaks up on the issue of unlimited freedom of air competition.

TOPICS From PERIODICALS

THE ART OF LEADERSHIP

Leadership consists in getting the best out of people, not for ourselves but for some cause, says Mr Diwan Chand Sharma in the *Aryan Path* for November.

It also implies the art of directing the energies of people towards the end, but in such a way that they do not feel they are being coerced

There is a desire for leadership in the hearts of many But this desire should be turned in a new direction

It should not be a craving for dominating over others but an ardent wish to serve others It should at the same time be realised that the service of others implies training method and mastery of the art of handling people At our educational institutions all these things should be inculcated at least indirectly There is a great deal of work to be done in this world and for that the dynamic energies of youth should be utilised

But before they are turned loose upon the world, they must be trained The question to be decided is along what lines this train ing should proceed

I believe it should be conducted on all the planes on which the human personality functions This training should be conducive to the development of physical fitness mental alertness ethical soundness and social constructiveness It should make the body sensitive and strong the mind receptive and elastic It should also humanise the student so that he will care more for ethical ends than for selfish and utilitarian objectives Above all, it should fill him with a desire for social amelioration It should engender not merely social pity but also a passion for social justice Initiative and resourcefulness should be encouraged but the attempt should also be made to utilise these qualities for constructive ends

REVIVAL OF VILLAGE ARTS

Mr Nagesh Yawalker, writing in the *Modern Review*, classifies village handicrafts broadly as follows

Plastics from clay, cow dung, horse dung etc, and their proper baking; wares cast from fusing of old glass, plaster and plasticine porcelain; papier mache, carpentry and woodwork; bronze casting and metal work sculpture and stone carving

An organized institution for the study and propagation of the use of Swadeshi raw materials, carrying out researches in ancient Cottage Art Industry, as also a search for village artistic talents, is, he says an urgent need

Artisans particularly from depressed classes, need special attention of the institute, inasmuch as such arts are their hereditary occupation and it is they that need cheap education and guidance The institute should be situated as near as possible to natural surroundings where the students' minds shall turn with Nature, as also near some contact with best teachers etc Museums and town libraries will be found to be of great help The financial aspect is not of much importance as the institute can help itself from the sale of articles made from day to day Selfless devoted workers are the most important part of this scheme

PERFECT FOOD FOR HUMANS

The cocoanut kernel is exceptionally rich in fats The ripe fruit contains over sixty per cent of fats and the rest consists of proteids and carbohydrates Cocoanut also possesses the qualities of radium and its healing powers over all kinds of illness and abnormalities are due to this property, writes Dr Surendra Prasad Garg M D in *Social Welfare*.

Cocoanut, he adds, is a perfect food Man can live exclusively on it

My personal experience shows that cocoanut is excellent food for mental workers Milk and ghee can be replaced by its use Cocoanut is both assimilative and eliminative food The taking of cocoanut combats constipation the root cause of a number of diseases It contains different vitamins which purify blood and strengthen the mind

Generally, people throw away the water of raw cocoanut But it is a mistake Cocoanut water mixed with pure honey is a very refreshing beverage.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

"In the welter of suggestions and counter-suggestions for increasing agricultural productivity, especially for easing the food famine, little reference, if any, is being made to the imperative necessity of employing economical power which is essential to any appreciable increase of production", observes Mr K. Jayaraman in the course of an article in the *New Review*. The writer points out that in electricity, the ryot has a source of power sufficient to satisfy all his power needs and thereby increase production, and the Madras Government have already made it avilable to to the South Indian agriculturists through their hydro-electric schemes of Pykara and Mettur and the thermal system at Bezwada, Cocanada, and Vizagapatam. Other provinces like the U P. and Bihar and States like Mysore and Travancore have also several electrical installations to their credit The most noteworthy feature of electricity is that being a very mobile form of power, it can be generated at any place where it is cheap and sent easily to the place where it is needed for use, thereby making possible the decentralization of power and therefore industry Problems of congestion and insanitation resulting from excessive industrial concentration can be avoided in small towns and rural areas where industries can be set up, since electric transmission of power enables the use of machinery in localities deprived of oil or coal.

This essential distinction between electricity and every other form of power should not be overlooked and its importance to this land of villages cannot be exaggerated.

By enabling the pumping of water from the sub soil sources at a low cost and with ease, electricity helps the growth of more crops and protects them from the vagaries of the monsoons. It also enables the processing of raw products in the locality where they are grown, giving rise to small industries such as rice hulling, cotton ginning, ground nut decorticating, oil pressing etc, which besides creating new opportunities for employment to the rural population, enables the grower to secure better prices for his produce. When above all one considers the increased amenities which electricity brings incidentally to the rural folk, it appears that there is almost a moral duty to provide the same

BEGGAR ORGANISATIONS

Mr. Amar Chand Bhatia, who with the help of a researchship donated by Mr. Birla has made a special study of the beggar problem in Northern India gives us the benefit of his investigations in the course of an article of great interest in the December issue of the *Northern India Observer* of Lahore. He says

The beggar organisation aims at joint begging, pooling of all resources accumulated through individual or group begging, joint corporative household and joint worship of a "Guru" or "Gods" Further, it maintains fraternal relationship amongst beggars coming from a particular part of the country for the purpose of joint defence against the lawful forces of the Government, and it seeks not only to minimise the trouble engendered by individual endeavours but also to eliminate inimical individuals from within its rank and file Some of these organisations are loose and casual which scatter easily and willingly, and break many a time within a year, but again come into formation according to the exigencies of time Others are very strong, powerful, self supporting, self determining, authoritarian, regional and communal, and only very hard knocks can smash and disintegrate them.

Many of these beggars are given training in keeping their noses, lips and ears closed by means of various devices The practice lasts for one year or so They are sent out individually So are those who can easily foam at the mouth by cleverly hiding a lump of soap between their teeth and conveniently fall into convulsion, and those who have a genius for disguise can be altered to a ponderous deformity with something elephantine in the folds of bandages about their legs, the stoop of the broad shoulders and the repulsive and pendulous lip Everything is done with considerable ingenuity and simpler and less painful method is by the use of an old rag with butter, frankincense, brim stone and *rezin*, blood and cream Some of them (especially women), who can easily amputate or dislocate their arms and legs or can pose as being lame, are sent on special expeditions to persuade the credulous, brandishing documents garnished with huge seals or signatures. They pretend that their homes had been burnt and that they were left destitute, or that a famine, an earthquake or a flood had driven them to begging. Some mix the rust of iron with unslaked lime and snap and spread this over in leather strap which they then bind to their legs. When the strap is removed most of the skin of the leg comes with it And blood is rubbed on the sore flesh. At night they undo the bandages of their false wounds, and loosen their sound and vigorous knees which had been bound up since the morning in a thousand ligatures Others prepare their sore legs with celandine and ox blood for the morrow. Many attend the fairs and festivals in the garb of a *sadh* accompanied by *chelas* besmeared with dust.

USE OF TOPIS BY BRITISH

The view that the widespread use of sun helmets in India and other parts in the East was merely another attempt to bolster up the white man's prestige is put forward by Mr George Orwell writing in the *Tribune*

That the *topi* is needed to ward off the deadly tropical heat is just bunkum says Mr Orwell In support of this contention he points out that European sailors work on deck habitually bareheaded Cases of sun stroke happened among Asiatics as well as Europeans and were said to be commonest among stokers who were subject to fierce heat but not sun shine Finally the *topi* is quite a recent invention Early Europeans in India knew nothing of it In short the whole thing is bunkum

Endless emphasis on the difference between the whites and the natives is necessary for imperialism argues Mr Orwell

You can only rule over a subject race especially when you are in a small minority if you honestly believe yourselves to be racially superior and it helps towards this if you can believe that subject race to be biologically different There are quite a number of ways wherein Europeans in India used to believe without any evidence that Asiatic bodies differed from their own But this nonsense about Europeans being subject to sunstroke and Orientals not being so is the most cherished superstition of all The thin skull was a mark of racial superiority and the pith *topi* was a sort of emblem of imperialism

The fact that Wingate's men Indians Burmese and British all wore ordinary felt hats without any official protest is a sign of change in the times concludes Mr Orwell

GANDHI IS IMMORTAL

During the career of Gandhiji as lawyer politician and statesman journalist and leader, his wife stood by him Inside and outside jail she was a tower of strength to the Mahatma inspiring him to give his all for the sake of India's freedom Unfortunately she had to leave his terrestrial scene of action before the Mahatma writes *West Africa Pilot* the African paper under the heading In memory of Mahatma Gandhi's wife

The history of contemparary India adds the paper is virtually that of Gandhiji Let Mr Amery and his ilk insult Gandhiji as Bamboozler and what not yet when the fingers of history write they will not omit to superscribe the name of Mahatma Gandhi as immortal

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THE COMMUNAL RATIO IN INDIA

The Hindu population in India is decreasing while that of the Mussalmans rapidly increasing, and in about two hundred years' time, the Muslims may equal if not exceed the Hindus in numbers!

This is the opinion expressed by G. L. Bansal in the Journal of the Dewan Chand Political Information Bureau, in the course of an article on the above subject.

Census figures, showing population trends of the various important communities in India during the last 60 years, he writes, show that the proportion of Hindus to the total is decreasing decade after decade, while the proportion of Muslims is increasing. In 1881, the population of Hindus in India, per 10,000 of its population, was 7,432, while in 1941, it was only 6,593, which shows a decrease of 839 per 10,000 of the population. In contrast to this, the proportion of Muslims has actually recorded an increase from 1974 to 2,311, that is, an effective increase of 407.

Not only is this tendency evident in the population of India as a whole, but even province wise this trend is unmistakably clear, as the following table will indicate:

POPULATION PER 10,000 OF POPULATION

Provinces	Muslims		Hindus	
	1881	1941	1881	1941
Bengal	5,009	5,473	4,855	4,155
Punjab	5,533	5,707	3,084	2,657
U. P.	1,343	1,530	8,627	8,326
Bihar	1,089	1,259	8,430	7,206
Madras	623	790	9,141	8,074

In 1881, the population of Muslims in India was 5,01,15,000, and that of Hindus was 18,67,19,000, while in 1941, the population of the former was 9,20,58,000 and that of the latter 25,48,37,000, that is, the Muslims increased by about 4,20,00,000, while the Hindus increased by 6,61,00,000.

The percentage increase in the case of the former during the last sixty years put together, has been 84, while in the case of latter, it has only been 35. Again, during the past decade the Muslims increased by 18·7 per cent. while the Hindus increased only by 6·25 per cent., that is, their rate of increase has been almost one third of that of the Muslims.

In 1881, *i.e.*, 60 years ago, the proportion of Hindus to Muslims was about 3·4/5 to 1, while now it is 2·7/9 to 1 *i.e.*, nearly 3 : 1.

If we extrapolate this increase in the *population* of both the communities over the past sixty years, assuming the same rate of growth as has been evident in the past, without taking into account the additional increase every 10 years which are bound to occur due to the additional population at the end of these periods, it will be found that the population of Muslims and Hindus will become equal, *i.e.*, their ratio will become one after about two centuries from now. This estimate, however, works out on the side of over estimation, firstly, on account of the reason mentioned above, and secondly, because it takes *into account* the total percentage increases during the last sixty years, and not the decennial increases which show remarkable acceleration during recent decades in the case of Muslims and more or less the reverse tendency in the case of the Hindus.

If, however, we eliminate the error caused on account of the first reason mentioned above, both the communities will record equal numbers much earlier than 200 years.

There can be no denying the fact that Muslims are in a very much favourable position in regard to future growth than Hindus as is clear from the fact that in 1931, the number of children aged 0-10 to each married woman aged 15-40 was greater amongst the Muslims than amongst the Hindus, as the following figures will show.

Hindus	... 1·64
Muslims	... 1·78

Another set of figures which are also for the year 1931 are very interesting.

The proportion of children per 100 persons aged 14-40 in the case of Muslims was 74 while in the case of Hindus it was only 67. This number per one hundred married females aged 15 to 40 was 178 in the former case and 164 in the latter. This again shows that Muslims are definitely more fecund and will increase much faster than the Hindus.

INDIA & SOVIET EXPERIMENT

Recent changes in the Soviet Constitution have had considerable reaction on world opinion In the current issue of the *Hindustan Review*, Mr Kalinath Ray discusses their baneful effect on Indian politics By one of these changes the Republics of the Soviet Union are to have power to establish autonomous relations with foreign countries while the other confers on each of the Republics the power to have an independent army unit

It is argued by some that similar changes in the Indian Constitution would do good to India Pakistanites do not hesitate to cite the example of the Soviet But they forget that the Soviet leaders have always regarded the Union as a multi nation State like, say Britain or France What is good for Russia is not exactly suitable to other countries Take the U S A for instance

While the leaders of the Russian Revolution found their salvation in guaranteeing to each of the Republics which entered into a treaty to form the Union, the right of secession, the leaders of the American revolution did everything in their power to make the Union perpetual and inviolable and one of the wisest and most far sighted among them actually fought a civil war rather than concede to the southern slave owning States the rights to secede Here, again, think of what would have happened if the right of secession had not only been conceded in theory that actually enforced in practice? Could the United States have become the great world power it is to day if Lincoln had failed and the United States had been divided into two or more independent nations each with its independent foreign policy and with its separate and independent army and navy?

Our own case is entirely different from that of either Russia or America

Geographically India, though called a sub continent by her enemies and detractors is a much smaller country than either Russia or the United States and nature has from the first marked her out as a single homogeneous country Historically, ethnologically and culturally too her predominant characteristics are those of one single nation and not a congeries of nations, and the efforts of the best of her sons and daughters have for many centuries been directed to the supreme purpose of strengthening and consolidating the bonds of unity among the various communities composing her population and imbuing them with a strong sense of common national life It was the dream of the greatest Muslim rulers and statesmen in India as of the greatest Hindu rulers and statesmen both before them and since It is the supreme ideal to the pursuit of which the greatest Indians of these three generations, Muslim Christian and Parsi no less than Hindu, have consecrated their lives and for which so many of them have lived and died To them the Punjab and Bengal Madras, Bombay and the United Provinces have never been anything else than territorial units of one single and homogeneous country and the Bengalis Punjabees, Mahrattas Rajputs and Gujaratis or for that matter, Hindus Muslims Christians and Parsis have never been anything else than component elements in one single united and indivisible nation

For India therefore the Russian example can be no more than a profoundly interesting experiment on a large scale. We could have no more concern For, as Mr Ray justly says

The eleven provinces and the innumerable States, big and small that together constitute India it would not only be an act of monumental folly but amount to actual suicide to feel encouraged by what has just been done in entirely different circumstances in Soviet Russia and to demand either the right of separation from the future independent Indian State or the right to have their independent foreign policies and armies All the more would it be if any of them demanded this right on a communal basis as the advocates of Pakistan have been demanding it The division of India into two or more absolutely independent States constituted on a communal basis would be a disaster of the first magnitude both to these States themselves and to the country as a whole

THEATRE AND CINEMA

Writing on the above caption in the *Fortnightly*, London, Mr. Hamilton Fyfe urges the need for a National Theatre.

I do not say there is no good acting to be enjoyed on the screen There is a great deal, but everyone, I think, who knows both will agree that it is somehow different from acting on the stage. Screen plays are never acted straight through. They are made in bits and pieces I have watched scenes that ought to have been tense with emotion gone through over and over again until the performers, who began by putting life into their parts, became jaded and irritable. When at last the picture is taken, it shows them going through the requisite motions and doing so in a highly accomplished way, but without the deeply charged feeling for which the scene calls.

That is why the cinema has remained merely an entertainment and has not become an art For Art must stir emotion and this is almost beyond the possibilities of mechanism It is by its emotional appeal that the acted drama endears itself to the regular play goer and contributes something of value, not only to knowledge of human nature, but to the building of character.

To expect that mechanically produced acting can do this, he says, is as silly as it would be to substitute for the paintings in our galleries photographs of famous people or people of striking appearance, photographic studies of landscape; camera reproductions of figures grouped for such scenes as that masterpiece of Velasquez, the "Surrender of Breda," or the early Millais, "Christ in the Carpenter's Shop."

The personality of the painter works on us, makes us see what he saw, awakes in us the emotions he went through.

The same distinction exists between the acted and the mechanical drama This is one of the strongest pleas in our case for a National Theatre. We need organized drama now more than ever we needed it before. The living theatre has been almost banished by the sudden and violent irruption of cinemas. Commercially this was managed with a skill and enterprise which extort admiration. But its effect has been to narrow lamentably the field of art, to diminish the number of playgoers and leave many towns, some cities even, without a theatre and to affect the writing of plays

The value of great drama in education is generally admitted. Therefore it is a necessity of our cultural life that we should include drama among its regular, indispensable features.

All who care for the theatre as something more than a place of light amusement agree that this cannot be done by leaving the provision of acted plays to theatrical speculators whose only aim is quick profit It must be taken in hand by the community. That is why we need more than ever a National Theatre to keep up a high standard; to encourage cities, towns, even villages, to do for localities what it will be doing for the nation, and to show the masses that Drama as an art ranking with the others is as well entitled to recognition by the State

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

CAN INDIAN PHILOSOPHY BE MADE PROGRESSIVE? By G R. Malkani, [The Aryan Path, October 1944]

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO WORLD CIVILISATION. By Principal Lakshman Sarup. [Prabuddha Bharata, December 1944]

INDIA THE LAND OF TEMPLES By Louis Revel, [New Horizons, November 1944]

PROF COUPLAND'S CONSTITUTION FOR INDIA. By M Ruthnaswamy. [The New Review, November 1944]

INDIAN PHILOSOPHY: ITS ATTITUDE TO THE WORLD. By Dr. P. T. Raju, [The Vedanta Kesari, December 1944]

POLITICS AND ECONOMICS OF PAKISTAN. By Primal Ghosh, [Current Thought, Oct December 1944]

WOMEN IN THE AJANTA PAINTINGS. By Wahida Aziz, [The Twentieth Century, October 1944]

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

PLEA FOR EQUAL STATUS

The Nationalist group of the Transvaal Indian Congress has issued a statement protesting against the remarks of the Commissioner for Immigration and Asiatic Affairs that Asiatics will not have segregation but we have to achieve the same end by laying out land for their occupation and not calling it segregation

The statement says Indian people cannot be hoodwinked They are fully alive to the new menace to their self respect and vital existence and protest strongly against the camouflaged attempt by Government to foist on Indians a policy involving their ruination Ghettoes under any name are repugnant to the Indians sense of self respect and national honour The great sacrifices of Indian Chinese and other Asiatic soldiers on the battlefields of Africa Europe and Asia in the cause of the United Nations will be in vain if the Asiatics are not given their rightful and equal status in the comity of nations

SCHOLARSHIP FOR INDIAN STUDENTS

Hajee Ismail Cassik Adam a leading Indian merchant from Pretoria has donated £7 500 towards the foundation of a Scholarship Fund for Indian students at the Witwatersrand University The scheme for such a fund was inaugurated by the High Commissioner for India

It is hoped the Fund will eventually reach £30 000 Adam was educated in Pretoria and has travelled in England and the United States Since his return he has taken a prominent part in the public life of the Indian community His father the late Khan Bahadur Hajee Cassim Adam as the recognised leader of South African Indians rendered notable service to the Indian community

TERM OF SIR SHAFAAT AHMED KHAN

It is learnt that the term of office of Sir Shafaat Ahmed Khan Indian High Commissioner in the Union of South Africa has been extended by three months He was due to return to India in November and would now relinquish his post in February next

RT HON SASTRI S CALL

Speaking on the South African Indian question at a public meeting at the Gokhale Hall Madras on November 16 the Rt Hon V S Srinivasa Sastri appealed to Indians to support the Government of India in their prompt and manly action in respect of the Natal humiliation Expressing apprehensions that Whitehall was probably raising some eleventh hour objection against enforcement of sanctions against South Africa Mr Sastri made a suggestion that a dozen of the best men in England in whom democratic principles find honest embodiment should go to South Africa and tell Smuts and the whole crew of them to behave

Trinidad

POSITION OF INDIANS IN TRINIDAD

In the Council of State on November 20 Pandit H N Kunzru asked a short notice question whether the Secretary of State for Colonies recently recommended the introduction of universal adult franchise in Trinidad without requiring a voter to know English and the Trinidad Legislature by a narrow majority recommended that the voters should be required to know English

Mr R N Banerjee Commonwealth Relations Secretary replied that the Government of India had received telegraphic representation on the subject from the Indian Central Committee Trinidad This representation stated that the acceptance of the new franchise would result in the disenfranchisement of a large number of Indians The local Indian community had made representations to the Colonial Secretary and the Government of India had also addressed representations to London

Canada

FRANCHISE FOR INDIANS IN CANADA

The Khalsa Diwan Society of Vancouver has written a letter to the Government of India asking their help in obtaining franchise for Indians in Canada In the letter the Society has asserted We are not being treated as British subjects here

U. S. A.

INDIANS IN AMERICA

Mr. Anup Singh, Director of Research of the India League of America, contributes a brief article to the April issue of *Asia and the Americas* in which he states the case for the extension of the U. S. franchise to Indians.

When, he says, the Chinese were made eligible for American citizenship some months ago and Chinese immigration to America was placed on quota basis, the United States took the wind out of the sails of Japanese propaganda and earned the goodwill of the Chinese.

The arguments that prompted the Congress in the case of the Chinese are, he believes, equally pertinent in the case of Indians. India, like China, is a member of the United Nations, and its soldiers are fighting and dying with Americans Thousands of Americans have always been accorded equal rights and privileges in India.

The least America can do, he concludes, is to reciprocate this treatment. Indians, like the Chinese, should be put on an annual quota.

NATURALISATION OF INDIANS

Sir Chunilal Mehta, addressing the International Business conference at New York on November 13, asserted although the question of privilege of naturalisation of Indians in the United States may not directly be connected with the subject of commercial policy of the nations, yet the grant of such a privilege to Indians would create a most favourable impression in India regarding the desire of the United Seates to treat Indians on equal footing along with other United Nations. Sir Chunilal Mehta added: 'Only recently, United States passed an act qualifying the Chinese to be naturalised American citizens and I know there has been a bill before the American Congress extending similar privileges to Indians. This measure is however being unduly postponed and there is a growing suspicion in India that it may not be placed on the statute book."

Dominions and Colonies

BILATERAL AGREEMENTS

The council of State, discussing non-official resolutions on November 16, agreed to Mr. P. N. Sapru's resolution recommending to the Governor-General-in-Council to take steps to protect and safeguard the rights of Indians by bilateral agreements between the Government of India and the Governments of Colonies and Protectorates in which Indians were resident or domiciled and to which, in future, emigration might be permitted by the Government of India.

Pandit H. N. Kunzru, supporting the resolution, said that in view of the experience gained in Ceylon and South Africa His Majesty's Government must be approached to permit India's agents to be appointed in other parts of the Empire as well.

Ceylon

CEYLON TAMIL CONGRESS

The All-Ceylon Tamil Congress was formally inaugurated at a meeting held in the Colombo Town Hall on Sunday 29th October. Mr. G. G. Ponnambalam, Member of the State Council, presided and the following resolution was adopted:—

In furtherence of the express desire of all sections of the Tamil people in Ceylon and in deference to resolutions passed at several representative meetings, this public meeting of Tamils from all districts of the island assembled here inaugrate the All Ceylon Tamil Congress.

After several other speakers supported the resolution it was passed unanimously and the following were elected office-bearers: Mr G. G. Ponnambalam, President. Dr. E. M V. Naganathan, G. R. Motha and Mr. S. Sivasubramaniam, Joint Secretaries: Mr. I. X. Pereira and Mr. J. Tyagarajah, Treasurers.

Burma

MR. JAMNADAS MEHTA

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta has been appointed representative of the Government of India with the Government of Burma. He assumed office on October 30.

Utterances of the Day

DR. SINHA ON COMMUNALISM

At the first Convocation Address of the Utkal University, Dr Sachchidananda Sinha, Vice Chancellor of the Patna University, did not confine himself to purely academic questions. He referred to what he called the "tentacles of communalism" in India and said.

I make no apology for dealing with communalism as its tentacles are now widespread. Our responsibilities in this respect are undoubtedly great although it is not the whole truth to say that the people alone are solely to blame for it The source of the poison of communalism, that has been for now nearly forty years corroding our national life, is to be traced elsewhere, though we ourselves are not entirely free from blame for the growth of communal movements and tendencies.

Those who will think over the matter dispassionately and impartially, will have to admit that the responsibility of the British Government for the present situation—howsoever well intentioned their policy—has been no less great in this matter It is they who by recognising officially the communal principle, in almost all spheres of our public activities, and even in appointments to public services, (civil and military including that once splendid service, the Indian Civil) have sapped the very high efficiency of British Indian administration—which was till not long back based on competence and not communalism—and disorganised our public life, both inside the legislatures and also outside them The principal Indian communities, owing to the introduction of communal arrangements, are no longer induced to secure the goodwill of one another, on the contrary, almost all sections are led to think that their salvation lies in their living for themselves, in water tight compartments, without any mutual contact with others.

That being the position, it will always be very difficult for nationalist leaders to drive out the evil of communalism from the land, so long as it is freely, and almost aggressively, recognised, not only in the administration of the country, but even in its Constitution. That great Parliamentary Statute, the Government of India Act, 1935, embodies a section according preferential treatment in certain public services to one particular community (only partly Indian) over members of all other purely Indian communities. Such legislation (which I have no desire to characterize) has been enacted for the first time since Britain's connection with India, and is a blot on Parliament's escutcheon.

In the face of such a stubborn fact—to mention no others—I refuse to exonerate Government from responsibility in the matter of the growth of communalism. In this context, I shall quote a short passage from the famous Despatch, by Lord Durham, on the proposed Constitution of Canada, which would show the extent to which the policy of Government affects, for better or for worse, the mutual relations of communities in a country:—"It seems to have been the considered policy of the British Government," wrote that great British statesman, "to govern its colonies by means of division, and to break them down as much as possible into petty isolated communities, incapable of combination, and possessing no sufficient strength for individual resistance to the Empire" Any comment on it, with special reference to its application to present-day conditions in India, would be an act of superarogation; and I shall forbear from it.

And so, while I should not be understood to convey that no blame attaches to the educated classes of Indians, or that they are in no way responsible for what is happening almost daily in the country, or that it does not behove every one of us to try one's utmost to work for inter communal peace and goodwill, I am equally satisfied that the duty of British administrators does not, and should not, end merely with admonishing us to learn to behave better, without their adopting a policy which would strengthen the hands of those nationalist leaders who are working for genuine unity in the country. "No state of affairs," wrote Lord Elgin—the Governor General of Canada, in 1847—regarding the then situation in that country, "could be imagined less favourable to the extinction of communal animosities". And yet there has not been a trace of those animosities in Canada, ever since she attained Federation and national freedom. The situation in India today is no worse than what it was in Canada, nearly a century back, and if only the British Government will adopt a policy similar to that it did in Canada, there is no reason to apprehend that it will not produce similar beneficent results in this country. At any rate, the experiment is well worth trying.

SIR S. RADHAKRISHNAN ON UNITY IN PEACE AS IN WAR

Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of the Benares Hindu University, addressing the special Convocation of the Patna University held in celebration of its silver jubilee on November 30, said:

The most dangerous period is not the years of war when we struggle for victory, but the years when the war ends and we strive to win the peace. In the exaltation felt at the end of a long agony, we will be tempted to overlook the measures necessary to ensure the close of a gross, selfish epoch and the beginning of a happy mankind

Nazism is not a sudden accident in the pattern of history. If it were so, we might hope to secure a peaceful way of life when once Nazism was crushed. The pre war world suffered from a fundamental malaise in which not only the Axis powers but all nations had their share A world of slave empires, racial discriminations, industrial struggles, and wastage of human life through preventable unemployment cannot make for peace. So long as we perpetuate such a world, we shall not have peace though we destroy the Hitlerite regime.

Political

ELECTIONS FOR ASSEMBLY

In the Central Assembly on November 20, Sir Sultan Ahmed, in a written answer, replying to Mr B D Pande who asked what measures had been taken to hold general elections to the Central Legislature in 1945 and if no measures had been taken, the reasons therefor said

The life of each of the two Chambers of the Central Legislature has been extended upto 1st October, 1945 and even if it were now known that His Excellency would not effect further extensions, there would be no question of taking measures at this stage to hold general elections

C R S APPEAL TO CONGRESSMEN

Mr C. Rajagopalachari in a statement advises Congressmen to broaden the basis of collaboration and 'challenge the British Government to carry out His Majesty's Government's declaration in Parliament on March 11, 1942 take steps to further that declared policy at once and not to allow the present regime in India to continue for an indefinite period" The advice follows a telegram from Mr S K Patil to Mr. Rajagopalachari about the informal conference of Congressmen in October last held at Bombay and seeking the latter's good wishes and advice

DR HUSSAIN ON JINNAH'S THEORIES

'No responsible Muslim can submit to the absurd theories of Mr Jinnah which he must confine to himself without their exposure" says Dr. Irtaza Hussain in the course of a Press statement Dr Hussain continues

Mr Jinnah's recent statement exposes his great self as a great defeatist Instead of correcting his own errors he has preferred to fling mud on Mahatma Gandhi He acts as Dr Goebbels of India In the dwindling state of his leadership I do not see any reason why Mr Jinnah wishes to sabotage the cordial feelings of Muslims who do not wish to part themselves from their fellow brethrenhood of the Hindus as a separate nation even if some insane and dishonest Government would like to call them as belonging to a separate nation

CONGRESSMEN IN CONFERENCE

Resolutions reaffirming confidence in the political leadership of Mahatma Gandhi endorsing Mahatma Gandhi's proposals for the immediate establishment of a provisional National Government in the country and wholeheartedly supporting the stand taken by Mahatma Gandhi during the Gandhi Jinnah talks were passed at the informal Conference of prominent Congress representatives of Bombay province which met at Bombay on October 28 Mr N V. Gadgil President of the Maharashtra Provincial Congress Committee, presided

Nearly 250 representatives including delegates from Maharashtra, Gujerat and Karnatak attended the Conference which was convened by Mr S K Patil. Messages of goodwill were sent by Mahatma Gandhi, Mrs Sarojini Naidu Mr Bhulabhai Desai Mr C Rajagopalachari and Mr Gopinath Bardoloi, ex Premier of Assam

Similar Conferences were held at Madras and other Provincial centres renewing their faith in Gandhiji and the Congress

SIR H S GOUR ON PAKISTAN

Sir Hari Singh Gour, in a letter to the *New Statesman and Nation* states 'Pakistan is popularly believed to be the crystallised demand of the Moslem League in India And so it seems, but that is not so Pakistan is a 20th century crusade against non Moslems and its adoption as the main and only plank of the League platform is merely a challenge to those who stand outside the holy frontiers of Islam"

MR SASTRI ON ARBITRATION

In a special article in the *Indian Express* the Rt Hon V. S Srinivasa Sastri asks the Government to constitute a board of arbitration and invite all the parties in the country to plead their cases before it to solve India's political problem.

Educational

EDUCATIONAL IDEALS

Delivering the Convocation address to the Andhra University, the *Hon. Mr. Ghulam* Mohammed, Finance Member, Hyderabad (Deccan), said that while the social fabric and civic life of a people must have their roots in their past history and traditions, the world for them was the world of to-day and to-morrow

To those who had closely observed the standards of education both university and otherwise in this country, the extent of unemployment amongst the educated middle classes and the standard of work in the various fields performed by the products of our Universities, it was becoming increasingly clear that *considerable thought and attention* must be given to co ordinating the work and activities of our Universities with the actual requirements of India of to morrow Realism whether in education or in any other field, was an asset While the seat of learning should continue to add on to human knowledge it would be almost imposible to neglect the broad human problems by aligning their work to the needs of the country.

ALIGARH UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

Nawab Mehdi Yar Jung, Education Minister, Hyderabad, in his Convocation *address to the Aligarh University* on November 25 referred to the long and close connections subsisting between Aligarh and Hyderabad. He advised them to adhere to the founder's aim, the revival of ancient learning the splendid heritage of Mussalmans. Nawab Mehdi Yar Jung supported the medical college scheme and congratulated Sir Ziauddin on the institution's splendid progress.

DR. DEY'S ADDRESS TO MADRAS GRADUATES

Dr. B. B. Dey, Principal, Presidency College, Madras, in the course of his address at the annual Convocation of the University of Madras, on August 21, observed:

In the great task of keeping up intellectual and moral standards in the world our University men will be helped not so much by the matter of fact knowledge acquired from books during their course, but by the disciplined attitude of mind which would enable them to free themselves from the shackles of age old prejudices, to examine the problems of society dispassionately and with courage to receive and transmit new impulses and ideas and expose mercilessly ugliness, imperfections, follies and superstitions *wherever they* might be found

SIR K. N. HAKSAR'S APPEAL

Sir Kailash Narain Haksar advocated the abolition of the Sovereign *Nation State* and the establishment in its place of a Sovereign World State as the only cure for the malady of war, in his Convocation address to the Allahabad University. He said

If to day, the Big Powers seek to make 'nationhood' the chief divison of man and the chief cause for which this war is being fought, they are doomed to fail.

Sir Kailash characterised the present war as a conflict between the concept of national supremacy, which implied racial supremacy, and the concept of the equality of peoples in the free world. "In other words", he added,

if this war, as is professed, is, in fact, a war for the liberation of peoples throughout the world, discrimination between peoples because of their race, colour and creed must be abolished.

He urged that the age of imperialism must be ended.

Sir Kailash advised students to be prepared to play an important role in the shaping of the future world and their country.

MR WADIA ON NEED OF EDUCATION REFORM

"Educational expenditure ought really to be regarded as part of a country's war effort," declared Mr. B. J. Wadia, Vice Chancellor of the Bombay University, delivering the annual Convocation Address.

Mr. Wadia said that all over the world the war had mobilized man's will to prepare new plans of development and expansion for the post-war period. New theories and new ideas of education were being freely discussed and the time had come for us to take a large view of our educational aims and activities. "The more democratic we become," Mr. Wadia asserted, "the more important it is, that we maintain high standards in literature, in art and in science".

Legal

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TAINTED EVIDENCE

Shan Jahah Bakht a Sub Inspector of Pol ce who was convicted in connection with the August disturbances in 1942 and sentenced to six months R I by a Special Magistrate (conviction and sentence being confirmed by the Sessions Judge in appeal) was acquitted in revision by the Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court

The charges made against the applicant were that on August 18 1942 he allowed a mob of about 8 000 to 4 000 persons to loot and burn Tarwa police station without using force to disperse the mob which it was his duty to do as a Police officer and that he was also guilty under Section 29 of the Police Act of cowardice and violation of duty

His Lordship after summarising the incidents that followed the occurrence of August 18 1942 was of the opinion that under the circumstances no act of cowardice was shown by the accused and that he was justified in entertaining the belief that the force at his disposal was not enough to cope with the situation and it was no use indulging in wanton destruction of human lives not merely of the unruly crowd but also the lives of the fellow members of his own Police force

Acquitting the applicant the Chief Justice remarked

The conclus on arr ved at by the courts below in this case is opposed to all canons of just ce and is one which I find it impossible to subscr be to

MR J P NARAIN S HABEAS CORPUS

When the *Habeas Corpus* petition on behalf of Mr Jai Prakash Narain detained in the Punjab came up before Mr Justice Mahommad Munir of the Lahore High Court on November 2 His Lordship ordered that opportunity be given to the detenu to represent his case He is at liberty to engage counsel according to his choice and at his expense

His Lordship remarked that the Advocate General had undertaken that on the petitioner informing the Court reasonable facilities for interviews with his counsel would be provided

NAGPUR CONTEMPT CASE

Strong remarks were made by Justices Sen and Bose of Nagpur High Court in the case in which Mr M A Sumali Superintendent of the Nagpur Central Jail was sentenced to a fine of Rs 250 or 14 days simple imprisonment for contempt of court

Their Lordships said

We have been treated with scant courtesy and the statement o fens ve in tone and temper and reckless in its regard for truth has been put in after careful deliberat on and thought It is mpossible for us to overlook th s pers stent aggravat on of contempt It is all the more mposs ble because of the tendency we have marked of late in more cases than one of the attempts to gnore the authority of th s court and to trifle w th it

It will be remembered that the High Court censured Lt Col Jatar Inspector General of Prisons in connection with this case Their Lordships remarked they could not take a more severe action against Mr M A Sumali

as it is ev dent that a man of th e Superinten dent s pos t on would hardly have adopte l this wholly wrong att tu le l ad he not been encouraged in it tac tly or otherw se by those in aut l ority We trust th s will serve as a warning and an example

A POINT FOR THE PRIVY COUNCIL

In view of the conflicting decisions pronounced by the Madras and Bombay High Courts on the one hand and the Allahabad High Court on the other on the point whether house tax and water tax can be exempted from income tax it is proposed to take the point in appeal to the Privy Council for an authoritative ruling

It may be recalled that the Allahabad High Court in a case referred by the Income tax Appellate Tribunal held that the amounts paid as house tax and water tax under the U P Municipalities Act 1916 are allowable deductions in comput ing incomes from property under Section 9 of the Income tax Act On the other hand the Madras and Bombay High Courts in similar cases held contrary views

Insurance

NATIONALISATION OF INSURANCE

Nationalisation of insurance was urged by Prof. Ranga and supported by Mr. Avinashilingam Chettiar, Mr Hoossainbhai Lalji and Mr Manu Subedar in the course of the debate on Sir Azizul Haque's motion to refer his Insurance Act Amendment Bill to a Select Committee in the Assembly on November 14 The House eventually rejected, without a division, Mr Krishnamachari's motion to circulate the Bill and passed Sir Azizul Haque's motion.

During the debate, Mr Krishnamachari said that his motion was a dilatory one He wanted circulation because, otherwise, it might have to be amended again and again in the light of public criticism He generally welcomed many of the provisions of the Bill.

Prof. Ranga pointed out that the State, even now, was running a postal insurance scheme for its employees and was actually running it more efficiently than private insurance companies. Its expense ratio was the lowest about ten per cent. as compared to some 20 per cent. for the most efficiently run private insurance company. Prof. Ranga remarked that it was true that only a Swaraj Government could give the best satisfaction But, even the present Government was preparing schemes in anticipation of the advent of a Swaraj Government and he suggested it should give thought to this subject also He referred to the fact that the various insurance companies were concentrated mainly in the big cities with the result that the large sums collected as premium from all corners of the country were used only in these cities and were denied to the provinces from which they were collected and where they were urgently required for development This evil, he suggested, could only be cured by making insurance a State enterprise.

The Commerce Member said that his attention had been drawn to certain objectionable and deplorable features of insurance companies in this country. India of the future, he declared, was not to be handed over to a few monopolists

INJURY INSURANCE SCHEME

Fundamental and far-reaching in British workmen's compensation proposed in an official Government ment on plans for an Industrial Inj Insurance Scheme.

Workmen's compensation will be treated as a social service registered as a separate scheme but under the new Ministry of Social Insurance. The liability instead of being on the individual employer will be placed on a central fund out of which all benefits and administrative charges will be paid.

The fund will be maintained by a weekly contribution from the employers and workmen with a contribution from the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Ministry of Finance). Women will be entitled to the injury allowance and pensions at the same basic rate as men.

An advisory committee or council will be set up on which the employers and workmen will be equally represented to advise the Minister of Social Insurance on important matters of policy and the administration referred to them. Employers and workmen will be equally represented on local appeal committees.

SOCIAL INSURANCE IN BRITAIN

The House of Commons unanimously approved of the Government plan for social insurance in Britain in principle.

The debate was wound up by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir John Anderson, who said that it was only one step towards the higher standard of living and more equal sharing of wealth they were all looking forward to. Unless it resulted in national productive efficiency, he said, it would fail. If the community did its duty by the individual, the Chancellor added, the individual must do his duty by the community.

Sir John Anderson assured Parliament that Britain would be able to afford the new social insurance plan provided that everyone pulled his weight.

He declared that he was prepared to take such a risk and friends need not be alarmed at the prospective charge on the Exchequer.

Trade and Finance

LEND LEASE STORES FROM U S A

The total value of Lend Lease stores received in India to the end of July 1944 was approximately Rs 270 crores said the Finance Member in reply to Mr Manu Subedar's question in the Assembly The principal items of Lease Lend goods received from the U S A were mainly munitions of war of all kinds metals machinery petroleum products food and tobacco for the armed forces etc were also received

Q - On balance who is the gainer ?

A.—The Hon Member can draw his own conclusions

Mr Subedar varied the question by enquiring whether up to date India had given more than she has received The Finance Member said India had received more than she had given

The Finance Member informed Mr Neogy it would be correct to say that dollar credits had been received by India equivalent in amount to the favourable balance of payments India had with the United States

INDIAN COAL FOR CEYLON

The supply of Indian coal to industries in Ceylon which compete with Indian industries while the latter were not receiving adequate supplies of coal is the issue raised by the Southern India Chamber of Commerce in a communication addressed by them to the Supplies Member to the Government of India in connection with the supply of about 4 000 tons of Indian coal for essential purposes to Ceylon

The Chamber recently drew the Member's attention to the fact that glass exports from India to Ceylon had stagnated in recent months due to the starting of glass factories in that island fed on Indian coal The Chamber have since referred to the recent opening of a factory at Nattandiyya in Ceylon by Admiral Sir Geoffrey Layton and the plans indicated by him for opening eight other factories as part of Ceylon's industrial development

TREATY BETWEEN INDIA AND U S A

The conclusion of a treaty of commerce and navigation between India and the United States was urged by Sir Chunilal Mehta at the International Business Conference at New York on November 18

Sir Chunilal Mehta told the Conference's sectional committee on commercial policy of nations that this alone could place Indians living in the United States on a basis of equality Every country should have equal rights for trading with any other country and such equal rights between nations would encourage mutual trade and commmerce

Any attempt now to treat India as if she were a rich country would be entirely unjust and unfair asserted Sir Chunilal Mehta in the 800 words statement he submitted to the Committee discussing the currency relations among the nations He added I may affirm that India is opposed to any attempt to raise the exchange value of the rupee be it in terms of the pound sterling or gold

INDIAN REPRESENTATIVE FOR IRAN

Following the development of commercial relations between India and Iran as a result of the war an independent post of Indian Commercial Representative for Iran has been created Leading newspapers assume that Major Hassan serving at the British Embassy will be appointed to the post

FOOD SUPPLY

Sir J P Srivastava Food Member initiating the food debate in the Central Assembly announced that 65 000 tons of foodgrains had already been received 95 000 tons had been shipped and an additional 30 000 tons had been promised to India for the quarter ending December 31 1944

CALCUTTA TRAMWAYS

It is understood that the Tata group with the aid of their many million sterlings blocked in Britain are interested in financing the Calcutta Corporation to purchase the Calcutta Tramways as this would provide the Tatas with a means for remitting some of their sterling balances

A I N E C s RESOLUTIONS

The Standing Committee of the All India Newspaper Editors Conference which met at Lahore last month adopted a resolution stating that invitations of the Government of India to the Press Association to appoint Press parties to visit the various places should properly be addressed to the A I N E C

Another resolution adopted by the Committee stated

The Committee notes with concern the tendency of some newspapers to indulge in obscene and personal writings Such writings lower the standard of journalism and corrupted public taste In the interest of journalism itself such writings must be discouraged

A Sub Committee consisting of Mr S A Brelvi Mr K Srinivasan of the *Hindu* Mr Francis Low Mr K Srinivasan of Bombay Mr Amritlal Seth and Mr A D Mani was set up to examine the matter and make recommendations to the Standing Committee

PANDIT GURTU ON A NEW SYNTHESIS

Pandit Iqbal C Narayan Gurtu pleading for a new synthesis between East and West at the Benares Hindu University Convocation observed

What is needed is that both the East and the West must make a supreme effort to understand and respect each other even if an effective synthesis of the two cultures be not at present found to possible They must at least recognise that both are complementary to each other The East more than the West is waiting to be properly comprehended and justly estimated The pride of political conquest and material prosperity may for the moment prove a barrier and breed a silent contempt for that section of humanity which is considered to be under the tutelage of the West but the position is happily changing The Eastern nations are learning to assert their right to freedom and the West has to discharge its moral duty by respecting their natural and legitimate rights.

Mr SASTRI'S LECTURES ON THE RAMAYANA

The Rt Hon V S Srinivasa Sastri was presented with an address by lovers of the Ramayana and members of the Sanskrit Academy Madras on November 8 on the conclusion of his lectures on the Ramayana.

Sir P S Sivaswami Ayyar who presided said that of all the great public services rendered by the Rt Hon Sastri his lectures on the Ramayana were the greatest

C B E FOR CAPTAIN RAMA RAO

Capt Matety Sri Rama Rao has been awarded the M B E (Military) in Italy for showing complete disregard to his own safety in rushing to the aid of the wounded and arranging for their evacuations

On one occasion the advanced dressing station on the bank of the Sangro in which Capt Rama Rao was working was subjected to an air attack and one of the vehicles received a direct hit At three different times at Frisa his advanced dressing stations were shelled On all these occasions Capt Rao displayed indifference to danger and treated the wounded The citation says His example coolness and devotion to duty under fire was beyond praise and an inspiration to his whole unit

Dr WILLIAM TEMPLE

The Archbishop of Canterbury the Most Rev and Rt Hon Dr William Temple died on October 28 at the age of 63

One of the most progressive and vigorous leaders of the Church of England Archbishop Dr William Temple was enthroned Archbishop of Canterbury in April 1942 at Canterbury Cathedral—the 96th Archbishop of Canterbury and Primate of all England I would rather be said at the dedication my intimate friends knew me as one who thought nothing of himself in comparison with the work he had to do rather than that they knew me as a great scholar or a great saint

C P GOVERNOR'S TRIBUTE TO C R

Sir Henry Twynam Governor of the C P and Chancellor of the Nagpur University inviting Mr C Rajagopalachariar to deliver the Convocation address paid him a tribute describing him

as an outstanding lawyer prominent politician skilled administrator and notable because of his untiring efforts to find a way out of the many difficulties which beset us in the achievement of those ideals which all of us have at heart

TWO INDIANS IN UNRRA

It is learnt that two Indians have been appointed to administrative posts on the UNRRA at Washington One is Mr Gogate formerly agricultural economist U S A Department of Agriculture and the other Mr C A Soorma Deputy Director National War Front who has been appointed in the displaced persons division

Medical

Dr. J. N. Mehta on Medical Research

"If village medical relief is to progress in the country—and it must undoubtedly do at a far greater speed than has been the case hitherto, as almost nine persons out of ten in India live in villages—we shall have to work out a very cheap method of medical treatment," observed Dr. Jivaraj N. Mehta, presiding over the first Conference of the Association of Physicians of India held in the Medical College Hall, Madras, on November 11. Dr. Mehta deplored the popular "craze for injections and costly medicines" and remarked that it should be put down.

Dr. Jivaraj Mehta suggested that medical and other scientific knowledge be imparted through the Indian language medium, as that would promote co operation between physician and patient. "If scientific teaching is to be effective," he added, "it will have to be through the medium of the mother-tongue."

Dr. Mehta pleaded also for attention being paid to Ayurveda and said that medical graduates might submit theses on their studies on Ayurveda for the M.D., or the Ph.D. Examinations. The History of the Ayurveda should, he added, be included in the study of the History of Medicine which forms part of the Examination for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine.

5 Year Plan for Nursing Services

A 5-year plan for the development of nursing services in India is under preparation. As Medical Service is a provincial subject, all Provincial Governments have been asked to prepare tentative plans for their development with particular reference to the scale of the nursing staff in Government and local bodies' hospitals and their conditions of service.

It is emphasised that if the profession of nursing were to attract educated women's attention they must be paid according to their standards of living. It is also suggested that the staff should have 3 good meals a day and each nurse should have a room to herself. 96 hours a fortnight should be the maximum hours of duty in all hospitals.

It is pointed out that experience gained in the Army by nurses will be of considerable value to provinces.

Health

Diet and Voice

A scientist has put forward the theory that meat eating is harmful to the full development of the vocal chords. You can't be a meat-eater and a good singer—that is his idea. He points to the English as a proof of his theory. The English eat more meat than most other nationalities—and how often do you find a good singing voice in England? As a contrast he cites the Italians who eat little meat and subsist mainly on a diet of vegetables and cereals. But look, he infers, at the beautiful tenors found everywhere in Italy.

As a final proof, our scientist goes to the bird kingdom. All song-birds, he states, are vegetarians. Carnivorous birds—eagles, hawks, vultures, gulls—can only utter harsh, inarticulate sounds. Like the English meat eaters—they can't sing!—*A Magasinet* (Oslo).

Nature's Great Restorer

All disturbances of function in the kidneys and elsewhere in the body mean dissipation of nerve energy, its restoration is an important factor, writes Dr. Harry Clements in *Health For All*.

Rest is undoubtedly Nature's great restorer, and it is always wise to plan a course of rest and not just leave it to chance. Rest should be something more than merely staying in bed. The whole body should be as completely relaxed as possible and the mind freed from irritating influences. In this way one may restore and build up vital nerve energy, and thus enable the system to overcome its disorders.

Making Water Safe for Drink

Persons living in or travelling to flood areas where the water supply may be polluted temporarily can assure themselves of a safe drink of water by adding a drop of iodine to each glass of water, writes a medical man. The ordinary tincture of iodine for first-aid treatment of cuts does the trick of destroying typhoid fever or other harmful germs. A drop will make as much as a quart of water safe for drinking. Persons travelling can carry with them little ampules made for first-aid use.

Currency and Banking

PROPOSED BANKERS ASSOCIATION

Three prominent Indian banks which participated in the preliminary meetings concerning the proposed Indian Bankers Association held in June by the Chairman Indian Merchants Chamber and were elected to the Sub Committee appointed to draft the constitution of the proposed Association with Sir Homi Mody as Chairman have informed Sir Homi Mody that the present times are abnormal for forming an Indian Bankers Association It is only a few weeks ago that the Imperial Bank with a majority of Indian shareholders and a majority of Indian Directors wrote to the Secretary Indian Bankers' Association declining to join the Association The three banks earlier referred to have broadly indicated that they may not care to join the Association

3 PER CENT FUNDING LOAN

As it appears that there is a strong demand on the part of institutional investors and the market generally for a long term investment the Government of India have decided to create a further issue of the Three per cent Funding Loan (1966 68) for Rs 35 00 00 000

The securities will be available for sale on Government account by the Reserve Bank of India through the usual procedure for the sale of counter parts and special issues at prices to be ascertained from the Bank states a press *communique*

During the seven weeks ending September 23 1944 Rs 25¼ crores were invested in Central Government Loans of which Rs 11¼ crores represent subscriptions to the 3 per cent Victory Loan (1957) and Rs 14 crores other loans on sale through the Reserve Bank says a press note

A NEW GOLD MINE

One more gold mine states the A P I is now adding to the bullion wealth of India The South Kolar Goldmine discovered originally a century ago had been given up as barren after more than one attempt at exploitation Fresh attempts initiated by an enterprising firm in 1942 have proved a commercial success and this mine is now a sizable source of gold It is situated in the Chittoor District bordering on the famous Kolar Field

Railways

RECORD INCOME FOR RAILWAYS IN 1943 44

The Public Accounts Committee commenced its sittings on August 14 1944 and examined on that day the appropriation accounts of the railways for the year 1942 43 The Finance Member presided

During the year under review the gross traffic receipts of the railways as well as the railway surplus reached record heights the figures being Rs 155 crores and Rs 45 crores respectively Both these records have however been broken by the results of 1943 44 for which year the corresponding figures are Rs 181 crores and Rs 50 crores respectively The share payable to general revenues during these two years was Rs 20 crores in the former and Rs 37 crores in the latter

In the year 1942 43 the railways paid off completely the outstanding liabilities to general revenues on account of arrears of contribution and to the depreciation fund on account of the loan taken from it during the years of depression In addition, it was possible to make a substantial contribution amounting to almost Rs 9 crores to the railway reserve fund

M & S M RY MANAGER S SURVEY

Mr R de K Maynard General Manager, M & S M Railway, at a Press conference held on November 10th at the Head Office Park Town explained the working of the Railway during war time and detailed the efforts made by the Railway to meet civil and military requirements This is the first of such conferences being held according to a suggestion of the Railway Board after the Railway had been taken over by the Government

To a question whether there was any likelihood of more passenger trains being run in the near future he said it was unlikely but attempts were being made to improve the condition of carriages

To another question he stated that the workshops in this railway had produced ammunitions for military purposes to the value of Rs 40 lakhs up till now

RAIL TRAFFIC AFTER THE WAR

A reduction in the number of classes of passenger traffic on trains as a post war measure is now under the consideration of the Government of India

Science

Sir ARTHUR EDDINGTON

Sir Arthur Eddington the British astronomer and physicist who died at Cambridge on November 22 was a leading authority on applications of Einstein's theory of relativity and his work on motion of stars and their construction won worldwide recognition He was President of the Royal Astronomical Society and received the gold medal in 1938 He was President of the International Astronomical Union His best known books were The Expanding Universe and New Pathways to Science

Sir C V RAMAN ON MISUSE OF SCIENCE

Sir C V Raman inaugurating the Science Association of the Lucknow University on November 9 said that non co operation was a powerful weapon against the misuse of science Scientists should prepare themselves to be crucified in the defence of science rather than allow it to be misused by Imperialists and Dictators as an instrument of destruction of human life and culture

NEW CAT'S EYE DRUG

German scientists have invented a new Cat's Eye drug which trebles the eye sight in darkness according to a Berlin report in the *afton bla let* The new drug is called noctan bee Injected in the eye it makes the retina perceive ultra red rays It enables a night flier to sight an enemy plane in darkness at a distance three times longer than had hitherto been experienced

INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS

More than 900 scientists from all over India and Ceylon will attend the 32nd session of the Indian Science Congress which meets in Nagpur in the first week of January 1945 Sir S S Bhatnagar who is at present in England will complete his tour of Britain and America and be here to preside over the session

V—2 NAZIS NEW WEAPON

V 2 —which the Germans announce is now in use against Southern England —is a powerful rocket say reports from Sweden and other neutral countries Some of these reports credit V 2 with a range of between 200 and 300 miles and a war head of something under a ton of high explosives

Film World

677

A POST WAR PLAN FOR FILMS

To spread knowledge and happiness through the medium of the cinematographic film which has an undoubtedly vital part to play in the future of our country Sri G Ramabrahmam has come forward with a plan for the consideration of Government and industrialists

In brief Sri Ramabrahmam points out that India needs 10 200 cinemas an annual output of 300 feature films 104 shorts and 52 weekly news reels

In his interesting pamphlet which embodies Sri Ramabrahmam's ambitious plan the following salient points deserve careful attention

The Plan gives an opening for creating foreign market for Indian films and All India market for South Indian films

The Plan is to afford all facilities to the trade to be self sufficient and self dependent as far as raw materials are concerned

The Plan is to be implemented by the Film Councils (Central and Provincial) in which the trade will have voice

INCOME OF INDIAN FILM INDUSTRY

The gross income of the Indian film industry during the year 1943 44 according to the statistics collected by the Indian Motion Picture Producers Association is Rs 9 93 45 100 Out of this the net amount received by producers distributors and exhibitors of Indian films was Rs 7 15 08 820 In other words the net return to Indian film producers is 32 per cent of what an individual producer's picture collects at the box office Therefore if a producer spends one lakh on a picture and wants to make a profit of 10 per cent on it that picture must collect at the box office no less than Rs 3½ lakhs

A REPLICA OF UJJAYANI

A magnificent palace which looks like an exact replica of ancient Ujjayani has been created at Prakash Studios This is one of the many grand magnanimous sets erected in the studios where Mr Vijay Bhatt is shooting some of the best parts of his forthcoming production *Vikra aditya* which is now fast taking shape

Automobiles

INDIAN MOTOR INDUSTRY

Indian hopes of setting up an Indian motor car industry after the war are sympathetically viewed by British manufacturers.

A leading British manufacturer gave an indication of the shape of things to come in the industry in relation to the export of cars to Eastern markets.

British manufacturers are well aware of India's aspirations to have an indigenous industry and are prepared to co-operate to the fullest extent.

But, he pointed out, as America absorbed British cars before the war and Britain absorbed American cars, so there would have to be an exchange of products and ideas between Britain and India.

British manufacturers believe they have a big post-war market in the Middle East, where the inflow of sterling is always considerable. Designs and modifications born of war experience would be incorporated in the new models for these areas. He gave instances of new filters being made for keeping out sand in desert regions and new types of springing for rough country, and four-wheel driven vehicles for country tracks, and airless and therefore non punctureable types, and new cooling systems.

MOTOR VEHICLE LIGHTS IN BENGAL

By an amendment to the Bengal Lighting Restriction Order, Government have permitted the use of two masked headlights instead of one on civilian motor vehicles in Bengal.

In reaching this decision, the Note adds, Government have not been influenced by belief in any material decrease in the threat of an air attack. Government are advised, however, that the adverse effect on general obscuration likely to be caused by the proposed increase in the illumination of vehicles would be slight, and it is considered that any degree of risk involved will be justified by the interests of public safety, which has become increasingly endangered both by the growing volume of traffic and by curtailment of street lighting.

Aviation

WORLD AUTHORITY FOR AVIATION

Sir Gurunath Bewoor at the Plenary session of the International Civil Aviation Conference placed the support of the Government of India behind the plan advocated in principle by All-British Commonwealth of Nations for an international air authority with power to implement provisions for international air agreements.

Sir Gurunath Bewoor said: "We believe the grant of commercial rights, that is the right to carry traffic to and from another country, is best negotiated and agreed to on a universal reciprocal basis, rather than by bilateral agreements. Only such arrangements will secure to all countries the reciprocal rights which their interests require. But the grant of any such freedoms and rights must necessarily be associated with the constitution of an authority which will regulate the use of such freedoms. It will be the function of such authority to implement the provisions of any international agreement arrived at, and in particular to see that the development of air transport is promoted in the interests of the world as a whole and to ensure that the interests of the people, both of the most powerful and of the smallest countries are secured."

WORLD AIR ASSEMBLY

The International Air Conference at Chicago discussed at its meeting on November 21, a draft plan for an International Air Assembly. A scheme has been put forward by Britain, Canada and the U.S., but the three countries make it plain that they are not committing themselves to the proposals.

It is a plan for international air transport being controlled by an Assembly in which each nation has an equal vote. The assembly is to meet at least once a year. It would have little power beyond recommending various courses to its members; but it would appoint a Board of Directors to do the day to day work. This Board would have a President and 14 members. It would be necessary for seven of the members always to come from seven of the countries judged to be of "chief importance" in air transport. The delegates would sit for three years each.

MANUFACTURE OF CYCLES IN INDIA

The Economist writes that the report of the British cycle and motor cycle manufacturers had caused alarm in India Mr R D Birla Chairman of the Hind Cycles Limited pointed out that Indian cycle manufacturers have prepared a post war programme for the manufacture of half a million cycles to meet full India s requirements and reminded British factories of the British Government s settled policy to allow Indian industries to develop to their full capacity *The Economist* says that it would indeed be very wrong if British industry tried to prevent India s industrialisation but there is no trace of any such suggestion in the bicycle manufacturers report They merely stress the difficulties in exporting to Dominions and to India if these countries were to bolster up local manufacture with import duties

SIR C MEHTA ON INDUSTRALISATION

Sir Chunilal Mehta leader of the Indian delegation to America emphasized the importance of the industrialization of India and urged the establishment of a commercial treaty between the United States and India In response to a question Sir Chunilal said Industrialisation is practicable in India The Americans in India can come and trade there as fully as they like but Indians coming to the United States cannot trade as fully as they would like If commercial treaties are concluded then Indians can trade in the United States as fully as citizens of other nations

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF INDIA

Sir Miles Thomas the motor manufacturer in his second broadcast (from London) on Industrial development on November 13 said that whatever plan there was for the industrialisation of India should be put into operation before the end of the war

In Sir Miles opinion the picture of India is most encouraging possessing plenty of labour much of it with an inbred mechanical sympathy a good supply of raw materials the possiblity of developing low priced hydro electric power on a widespread scale and a market big enough to take advantage of the most modern methods

SCIFNTIFIC AGRICULTURE

Mr K S Hirlekar Honorary Secretary of the Independent Film Producers Association Bombay has sent a cable to the Indian Scientists Delegation now in London drawing their attention to the effectiveness of the motion picture in propagating scientific methods of agriculture among Indian land workers

The cable says The cabled version of the discussion at the reception given to you in London states that you referred to the difficulty of propagating scientific methods of agriculture among Indian land workers You mentioned more demonstration farms and community radios for desired results We submit you overlooked motion picture We hardly need tell you that the cinema by its visual appeal is more effective in rousing the imagination of the peasants than either newspapers or radios Soviet Russia uses the screen on a wide scale in educating the peasantry We humbly suggest that you study the part played by films produced by both official and private agencies in England America and Russia dealing with agricultural scientific and the educational subjects and recommend these methods in India.

IRRIGATION BOARD TO BE CONSTITUTED

It is understood that the Government of India has decided to constitute an Irrigation Board The new post of a Consulting Engineer for Irrigation to the Government of India is to be created He will be the chairman of the Board Among other members there will be Mr William Voorduin American expert who is also a member of the Technical Power Board Sir William Stampe and the Chief Engineer for Waterways Poona

The Board would advise the Government on the extension and improvement of irrigation schemes

GRANTS FOR VEGETABLE SEEDS

The Government of India have given Rs 156 lakhs as loan and Rs 50 lakhs as grant to the provinces to produce vegetable seeds of European variety The target has been fixed at 41 00 000 lbs of seeds with a view to making India independent of imported vegetable seeds

Labour

TIRUR BOAT WORKERS

Boat-workers at Tirur struck work on October 8 Large quantities of foods destined for the various parts of Ponnani taluk were lying idle at Tirur.

Mr. T. V. Anandan, Secretary of the Kerala Labour Congress, issued an appeal for help to the 800 and odd boat workers at Tirur who were on strike. He says that the charges for transporting 100 bags of rice from Tirur to Ponnani—a distance of 16 miles—was only Rs. 8. A boat plies between these two places only five or six times a month. Deducting boat hire, profession tax and the "mamool" for intermediaries named "moopan", each worker in a boat gets on the average only 8 annas a day. These workers ask for an increase of the charges from Rs. 8 to Rs. 20 and to put an end to these intermediaries.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES' PROVIDENT FUND

The Government of India have recently decided to extend the benefits of the States Railway Provident Fund on an optional basis to all permanent non Gazetted railway employees, irrespective of pay or status, who have three years' service and over, says a Press Note. While the higher-paid railway employee has always been a subscriber to the fund, the extension of the scheme to the lower paid staff was first begun in 1941 when those with 16 years' service and over were allowed to join the fund.

A further extension in 1942 was made in regard to all those with ten years' service and over and the present extension down to those with only three years' service will afford to a large body of railwaymen an opportunity of making more adequate provision for their old age than has been possible in the past.

PROF. ADARKAR'S WELFARE SCHEME

Professor Adarkar who has been appointed on special duty in the Labour Department has submitted a scheme for Labour Welfare, the cost of which is expected to be Rs. 252 lakhs a year. The scheme would be applied in the first instance to three groups of factory workers—Textile, Engineering and Metallurgy.

General

SIR A. R. MUDALIAR'S SUGGESTION

Sir A. Ramaswamy Mudaliar, Supply Member, Government of India, in his convocation address to the Patna University said that under the existing conditions the slogan "or parrot cry of a 'National Government' is not likely to contribute to any positive results."

"Is it not then time", he asked, "that a few gentlemen, say, a dozen or score, comparatively free from bias, without much commitment to party labels or particular ideals sit together, examine the contradictory proposals that now are holding the field, and put forward suggestions or solutions for the future? Will it not do some good if the nature of the fears and the apprehensions expressed by the various communities is frankly assessed, and equally frankly admitted where they are proved to be genuine, and that on that basis the proposals are examined and alternative solutions put forward? Will not a report of such a kind by such a body be of the highest assistance when leaders of parties meet, as they ultimately must, to come to agreements, and to draft the future constitutional structure of this country?

SIR MIRZA'S CALL

Sir Mirza Ismail, Prime Minister of Jaipur addressing the annual Convocation of the Agra University on November 18, advised new graduates to go out into the world resolved to serve the country in a spirit of true loyalty and devotion, forgetting the party differences that divide men and regarding all the people living in this land as brothers.

He stressed the idea of inter-dependence and asked new graduates to "remember, not independence but inter-dependence is the law of our life".

C R'S PLEA FOR ARBITRATION

The suggestion that the internal differences regarding the Princes and the Muslims—which had been advanced by British propagandists as standing in the way of Britain fulfilling her pledge in India to transfer power—might be submitted to an Allied tribunal for arbitration was made by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari in his address to the Convocation of the Nagpur University. "We shall accept" he said, "any just and fair award that will end these difficulties at once."

THE KASTURBA FUND

The total amount received by the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Fund now amounts to Rs. 1,15,89,650 9 8.

INDIAN STATES

—o—

Hyderabad

HYDERABAD IN RECENT YEARS

THE State has maintained a steady programme of progress during recent years in spite of the war His Exalted Highness proud and faithful Ally of the British Crown placed all the resources of his State at the disposal of His Majesty s Government from the day war was declared As may be expected the State finances have been put to the severest strain but have stood the test Hyderabad s contribution has been handsomely acknowledged by those in a position to assess its true value and importance



H E H THE NIZAM OF HYDERABAD

Owing to the sound condition of the finances the activities of nation building Departments such as Education and Public Health have continued to progress and expand The announcement of Constitutional Reforms (based mostly on the recommendations of a Committee with a non official majority) the promulgation of the Hyderabad Panchayats the inauguration of the District Conferences to associate the public more closely with the administration the establishment of a State Bank the sanction of a five year programme for the expansion of primary education and the granting of special facilit es for the education of children of depressed classes the promulgation of the Land Alienation Act the Money Lenders and the Debt Conciliation Regulations the passing of the Land Mortgage Bank Act, the constitution of an Industrial and Scientific Research Board the establishment of various war emergency factories the setting up of a Retrenchment Committee to report on the possibility of effective economy in public expenditure the formation of Statutory Advisory Committees on Finance Religious Affairs Public Health Education Agricultural Progress Industrial Progress Muslim and Hindu Endowment Trusts and Labour, the establishment of a Stock Exchange the introduction of Postal Cash Certificates and the launching of an anti corruption drive by establishing a separate department for the purpose are some of the outstanding features of recent years

POLITICAL REFORMS

H E H the Nizam was graciously pleased by Firman e Mubarak dated 16th Rajab 1356H (22nd September 1937) to appoint a Committee with a non official majority with the following terms of reference

> Keeping in view the conditions in and the requirements and circumstances of the State to investigate and report on all suitable alternatives for the more effective association of different interests in the State with the Government whereby the latter may be placed in continuous possession of their needs and desires

The Committee submitted its report on 31st August 1938 and its recommendations with the orders thereon were

published in July 1939. The scheme envisages the following:

1. Replacement of the present Legislative Council by a Legislative Assembly with enlarged powers and elected majority

2. The establishment of nine Statutory Advisory Committees for (1) Finance (2) Public Health (3) Education (4) Industrial Development (5) Agricultural Development (6) Religious Affairs (7) Hindu Endowments (8) Muslim Endowments and (9) Labour.

3 The creation of 16 District Boards, 26 Municipalities, 193 Town Committees, 2 Cantonment Boards and about 1,000 Village Panchayats besides District Conferences to be held annually at the Headquarters of each district

Keeping in view the wide extent of the work, and in order to educate the public in the ways of democratic thought and practice, Government started introducing the Reforms piecemeal.

The year 1942 saw the inauguration of the District Conferences and the establishment of the 9 Statutory Advisory Committees (in 1943) as the first step towards implementing the scheme. The District Conferences have been successful in creating public interest and eliciting opinion with regard to local needs. The two most important of the Statutory Committees formed are the Finance Advisory Committee and the Advisory Committee for Labour. The composition of the Advisory Committee of Labour includes representatives of labour, capital and the Government.

Steps have been taken to speed up interim arrangements regarding the constitution, under the new scheme, of District Boards, Municipalities, Town Committees and Cantonment Committees These interim bodies, which consist of majority of nominated non-officials, are meant to work until the electoral machinery is duly set up

REVENUE

In Hyderabad the most important sources of income consist of Land Revenue, Customs, Excise, Railways and Forests The annual gross demand of Land Revenue has shown a slight fall in the period under review from Rs. 365 00 lakhs to the estimated income of Rs. 315 00 lakhs in the budget estimate for 1944-45. Bad seasonal conditions necessitated remissions on a large scale averaging about Rs. 76 00 lakhs a year.

INDUSTRIES

With the outbreak of war, unprecedented opportunities for the development of industries in the Dominions were created. Government were fully alive to changing circumstances and took particular interest in the establishment of new industries by advancing loans to industrialists as well as by modifying their fiscal policy by exempting raw materials, imported for war needs, from customs duty. The productive capacity of existing industries increased and a large number of new factories were established. A few of the more important newly established factories are as follows:

1. Allwyn Metal Works.
2. Antigas Fabrick Factory
3. Pearl Surgical Dressing Factory.
4. Hyderabad Soap and Oil Works.
5. Hyderabad Chemical and Pharmaceutical Works
6. Starch and Glucose Factory.
7. Deccan Porcelain & Enamel Works.

The following factories are under erection:

1. Deccan Pencil Factory
2. Hyderabad Tanneries Ltd.
3. Hyderabad Porcelain & Potteries Ltd.
4. Hyderabad Wire & Nail Products Ltd.
5. Heavy Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd.
6. S P Oil Cloth and Allied Products Ltd.
7. Taj Glass Works Ltd.
8. Bio Chemical & Synthetic Products Ltd.
9. National Food Products Ltd.
10. Deccan Shoe & Leather Works Ltd.

EDUCATION

With a view to preventing possible unemployment among the educated classes and in order to equip them better to face the exigencies of modern economic life, a comprehensive scheme, reorganising the old system of education, is being carried out. According to this, education in the State has been organised in four stages each with a definite aim. The primary stage, which lasts five years, aims at providing the minimum of general education and training required to ensure permanent

literacy The secondary and vocational stage, lasting four years, is a self contained course of general education and constitutes a suitable foundation for higher studies Facilities are provided for the training of boys with a practical bent who wish to proceed beyond the primary stage but have an aptitude for literary studies The high and technical stage is followed at institutions with varying lengths of courses for preparing students for the university, clerical training, agricultural training and training in technical subjects Finally there is the university stage There is every indication that the time is not far off when compulsory primary education will be introduced in the State.

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY

In the sphere of higher education the Osmania University, founded over a quarter of a century ago, has made rapid progress in all directions The University imparts instruction in all subjects up to the highest stages through the medium of Urdu which is not only the official language of the State but is also the common bond of social and intellectual intercourse between all communities in India English is taught in all classes up to B A, and B Sc, examinations as a compulsory language The University provides instruction in Arts Theology, Science, Law, Engineering, Medicine and Pedagogy The University maintains 5 Intermediate Colleges and a First Grade College for Women with arrangements for teaching up to M A and M Sc stages Arrangements exist for the study of French, German, Sanskrit and Arabic outside college hours for the benefit of non members of the University Original research is particularly encouraged among students and the staff

A major administrative change in 1944 was the abolishing of the post of the Pro Vice-Chancellor, the appointment of a wholetime Vice Chancellor and the creation of the new office of Pro Chancellor The number of admissions in the intermediate colleges and the medical college has increased by 50 per cent during the year 1944 The number of students attending the University and the affiliated colleges has increased from 1 868 in 1937 to 3 014 in 1943 The degrees awarded have been recognised by almost all British Indian and foreign universities including the universities of Oxford, Cambridge and London

The M B B S degree of the Osmania University has now been recognised by the Government of India for recruitment of medical officers of I M S cadre for the duration of war

PUBLIC HEALTH

The budget of the Medical and Public Health Department has nearly doubled from Rs 29 17 lakhs to Rs 50 92 lakhs in the recent years An additional grant of Rs 3 lakhs for the extension of medical relief, Rs 2 lakhs for general development, Rs 97 000 for opening 18 new dispensaries and Rs 5 lakhs for the extension of public health work were provided by the Government in the year 1943 44 Maternity Wards have been established in different districts from H E H the Nizam's Silver Jubilee Funds Model Dais' Training Units have been started at four places in the Dominions from funds raised by H H the Princess of Berar, to which Government also has contributed Extensive health surveys throughout the Dominions have been conducted with special reference to the incidence of malaria, filariasis leprosy, guinea worm and factors responsible for the endemicity of plague in the Dominions

District hospitals have been provided with trained nurses First aid posts have been established in hospitals and dispensaries and four emergency hospitals have been opened in different localities in the metropolis The number of permanent allopathic hospitals and dispensaries is 152 There are, besides, 287 Unani and other dispensaries in the State

An Act for the Registration of Medical Practitioners has been enforced and resulted in the registration of 596 medical practitioners

Baroda

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF BARODA

BARODA has registered distinct progress in different fields of State activity during the regime of H. H Lt. Col. Sir Pratapsinh Gaekwad covering the



H. H. LT. COL. SIR PRATAPSINH

comparatively short period of five years from 1939 to 1944.

REFORMS

Among the landmarks that stand out in the pursuit of H H. the Maharaja Saheb's "declared policy" of "close association of the people with the Government" may be mentioned. Proclamation of the Government of Baroda Act and expansion of the Dhara Sabha (1940), establishing democratic reforms of a far-reaching nature; expansion of the Executive Council by including in it two of the non-official members of the Dhara Sabha (in this perhaps Baroda is unique among Indian States); refusal to accept communal electorates; extension of franchise etc. This is on all fours with His Highness' declaration: "—the new constitution is based on the complete identity of interests between the Ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the population" On another occasion he stated: "There is no difference of classes or interests in our State. My wish can only be for the peace, prosperity, happiness and identity of interests of all my people."

An event of considerable significance that took place during these years is the 'Merger' under which about 300 talukas and thanas have been attached to Baroda. In his message to the people and Thakores of these areas on 22nd July 1943, H. H. the Maharaja Saheb said:—

> I therefore announce that out of the income of the Trust a sum of Rs 50 000 will be earmarked every year for promoting the objects of the Trust in the attached area I am also constituting to-day a Trust which will yield an income of Rs. 50,000 a year to supplement this annual grant of Rs 50,000 from the Shri Sayaji Rao Diamond Jubilee Trust and for the same objects.
>
> I am also setting apart a sum of Rs. 10,000 every year for grants for the education of the sons etc of the Chiefs and Talukdars.

INDUSTRIES

Extension of the policy of industrial expansion by offer of concessions etc. has resulted in the establishment of numerous pioneer industries on a large scale, and development of those already existing. Details would cover considerable space; the progress is phenomenal and unprecedented. All this is due to the fostering care, encouragement and initiative of H.H. the Maharaja Saheb's industrial policy

In furtherance of the creation of a separate Ministry for post-war planning, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has constituted a Board of Industrial Advice for general industrial development as well as for post-war planning.

It was decided to invite certain outstanding industrialists of British India to serve on this Board and the undermentioned gentleman have agreed to work on this Board:

1 Sir Homi Mehta, Chairman, 2 Sir Sultan Chinoy, 3 Dr Matthai, 4 Mr Tulasidas Kilachand, 5 Mr M C Ghia

Rajya Ratna S V. Mukerjea Member for Post-war Development will be ex officio Member of this Board with Mr R S Kanungo, the Chief Secretary to the Government as the Convener

The main object of the Board is to frame general and post war development plans on systematic lines

EDUCATION

Baroda has been well known for over a generation for its bold and, at the same time revolutionary education policy It is the only administrative unit in India with free and compulsory primary education for nearly 40 years Recently physical training has also been made compulsory in all educational institutions Women's education has been another feather in Baroda's cap The percentage of literacy is about 23 per cent which is easily the highest in India with the only exceptions of Cochin and Travancore Then again, there is the famous literacy movement of Baroda which by itself is a remarkable achievement It is being further implemented under the present regime

In furtherance of the well known free and compulsory education system the Government have now revised the grades of primary teachers who are the pivot of educational structure, at an additional annual cost of Rs 289,700 and have brought them almost on the model of the grades suggested in the famous Sargent Report

LEGISLATION

Of course the high light in this section must be the reconstruction of the State Legislative machinery on a democratic basis, and the substantial increase in responsiveness of the executive to the popular angle as represented in the Dhara Sabha The legislature can take legitimate pride in the fact that all its recommendations have been sanctioned by the Huzur The pride of place in this sphere must therefore go to the Government of Baroda Act 1940

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

Here are some of the high spots in this sphere of the administration

Development of the T B Clinic and sanatorium scheme costing several lakhs The institution has already started functioning and is a unique one of its kind in Gujarat

The anti malaria and anti guinea worm schemes which are doing good work throughout the State

Establishment and expansion of Shri Maharani Shanta Devi Trust, whose beneficent activities in the interests of women and children are well known

PROVISION OF MEDICAL FACILITIES IN RURAL AREAS

Establishment of the health centre at the Kosamba Rural Reconstruction Centre in 1939 which has been rendering excellent service in villages in the matter of health and hygiene propaganda

RELIEF TO AGRICULTURE

The figures in this section refer to the period 1938 39 to 1942 43 During this period the remissions in land revenue totalled over Rs 10 lakhs and the suspension exceeded Rs 68 lakhs Permanent reduction in land revenue assessments amounting to Rs 23 65 000 was effected by Huzur Order dated 29 2 39 The Takavi loans came to nearly Rs 21 lakhs, Rs 1,92 080 were given for flood and fire relief The suspensions in takavi and debts came to nearly twelve lakhs, and those in local cess and Compulsory Education fines to nearly Rs 60 000 each, many thousands worth of hay was imported and supplied cheap to cultivators in distress and schemes were devised to get Bajri ground nut and paddyseeds from U P and Madras for State cultivators Similarly arrangements were made to supply sugar cane seeds, manure pine apples etc to growers in Navsari district

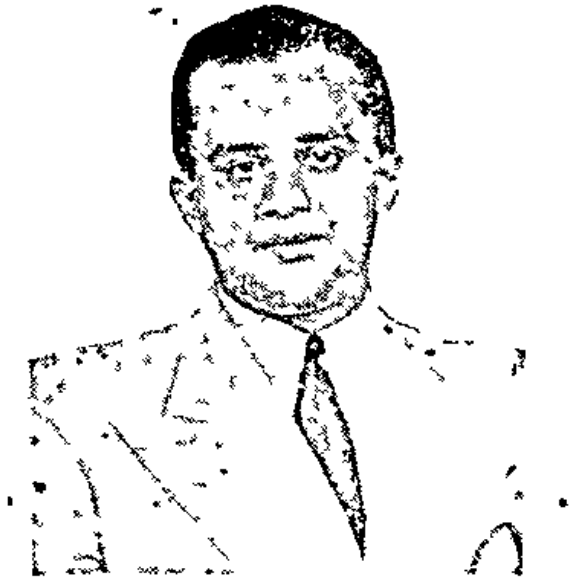
MISCELLANEOUS

This section presents a perplexingly large field for selection The first item that

Mysore

MYSORE MINISTERS' PORTFOLIOS

H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore has been pleased to allocate among the Dewan and



THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE

the Ministers, the business of Government as follows:

Pradhana Siromani Madhava Rao (Dewan): Palace, Political, Finance, Military, Economic Conference, Representative Assembly, Legislative Council, Civil Service, Secretariat and Information.

Mr. O. Pulla Reddi (Minister for Revenue and Law); Revenue, War, Police, City Municipalities, Judicial, Prisons Law, Legislation and Public Service Rules.

Mr. J. M. Imam (Minister for Public Works and Industries): Public Works, Electricity, Industries and Commerce, Excise, Income tax, etc.

Mr. H. B Gundappa Gowda (Minister for Local Self Government and Public Health): Medical, Local Self Government, Education etc.

MYSORE UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

Rajadharmapravina Diwan Bahadur K S. Chandrasekara Aiyar, retired Judge of the Mysore High Court, addressed the 26th Convocation of the Mysore University held at Mysore.

Recalling his association with the Mysore University he said that the University had in a brief period of 28 years established *a reputation second to none as an* advanced seat of modern learning and culture. It has helped to enhance the fame of Mysore as a State with a progressive outlook in the matter of higher education no less than in other respects. The people of Mysore may well feel proud of their university, and of the position it has secured in the estimation of the intellectual world.

In all 571 candidates (including 59 women) took their degrees. One hundred and eighty-one were admited to the degree of Bachelor of Arts and 177 took the B Sc. degree. *There were 98 Honours graduates* in Arts and 55 in Science. Fifteen (including 2 women) received the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, and 2 took degrees in Engineering. Thirty-four were admitted into the degree of Bachelor of Training while 19 took the M Sc. and 2 the D.Sc.

Cochin

MAHARAJA'S PROCLAMATION

On the occasion of his 70th Birthday Celebrations, His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin issued a Proclamation abolishing capital punishment in the State. It is an unqualified abolition of the death penalty.

As another birthday boon, His Highness has granted a temporary war allowance *of 10 per cent. of their pay to all officers* drawing a salary up to Rs 1,000 and 5 per cent. to pensioners The order takes effect retrospectively from August 16, 1944.

Bharatpur

BHARATPUR CIVIL LIST

H. H. the Maharaja of Bharatpur has directed that his civil list be limited to ten per cent. of the average ordinary revenue of the State Measures to protect agriculturists in the State have been initiated, including an undertaking *by the Government to finance* a scheme of compulsory redemption of private mortgages of agricultural land *in the* State. For the improvement of drainage in Bharatpur City Rs. 1,00,000 has been sanctioned.

Indore

SUSPENSION OF NEWSPAPERS

The newspapers "Amaj" and "Majdur-sandesh" have been forced to suspend their publication for an indefinite period under the Indore State Paper Control Order.

Travancore

ABOLITION OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

The Ruler of Travancore has abolished capital punishment for offences relating



THE MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE

to person, as distinct from offences against the State.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, presiding at a public meeting held at Trivandrum on November 12, to commemorate the Temple-Entry Proclamation, made the announcement abolishing death penalty in the State.

Cheers greeted the announcement by the Dewan of the proclamation of His Highness. The proclamation is published in a Gazette Extraordinary, which says that His Highness is satisfied that the penalty of death provided for certain offences under the Travancore Penal Code may be abolished. The proclamation comes into force at once. It provides that no sentence of death shall be awarded for certain specified offences and substitutes the penalty of imprisonment for life for the death penalty.

TRAVANCORE CONVOCATION

The Sixth Convocation of the Travancore University was held in the Council Chamber last month, when Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, retired Dewan of Baroda, delivered the address to the graduates. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Dewan and the Vice Chancellor, presided.

Addressing the Convocation, Sir V. T. Krishnamachari said:

The Travancore University has rightly decided that the education given by it should be of the very highest type practicable and that it should aim at culture in the widest sense. It has accordingly made provision for advanced courses in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Education and Law. 'Systematic provision of original research in the various branches of applied science' is one of the declared aims, and it is particularly gratifying that the Central Research Institute has to its credit an impressive volume of original work in many fields and has made a significant contribution to economic development in the State. The Faculty of Oriental Studies and Fine Arts provides for the conservation of Kerala Art and Culture with their distinctive features. The Travancore Government have also declared that, while they will assist the University with liberal grants, they will allow that body complete freedom so to organise academic life and teaching as to embody in them the highest conception of university life. I have every confidence that these traditions will be steadily maintained.

Kashmir

NON-OFFICIAL MINISTERS

The Muslim Conference Party in the Kashmir State Assembly staged a walk-out on October 7, when the President, Rai Bahadur Ganga Nath, ruled out of order an adjournment motion of Chaudhri Hamidullah Khan.

Non-life members filled up ballot papers to select a panel of six members for submission to the Maharaja to enable him to select two of them as his Ministers. Chaudhri Hamidullah Khan, Leader of the Muslim Conference Party, made a statement to the effect that the Working Committee of the Muslim Conference had decided that the reforms sanctioned by the Maharaja fell short of their demand for full Responsible Government.

Bhopal

POST-WAR DEVELOPMENT IN BHOPAL

Work under 5 heads namely, Urban, Rural and Agricultural, Industrial, Forests, and Financial and Economic has already begun on Bhopal's first 5-year plan of post-war development prepared by Mr. Mohsin Ali, Development Minister, acting under the aegis of the Bhopal Post-war Reconstruction Board.

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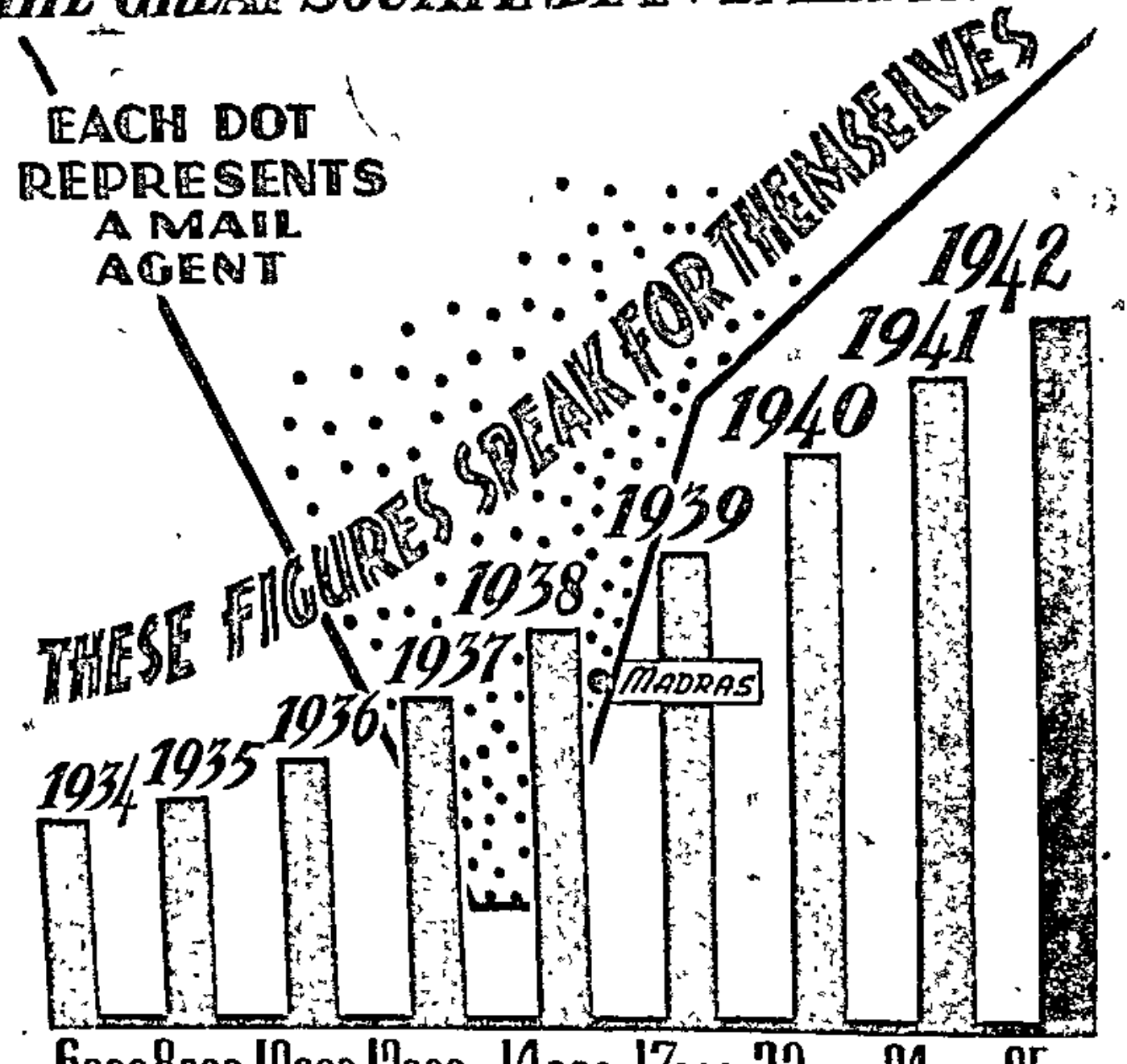
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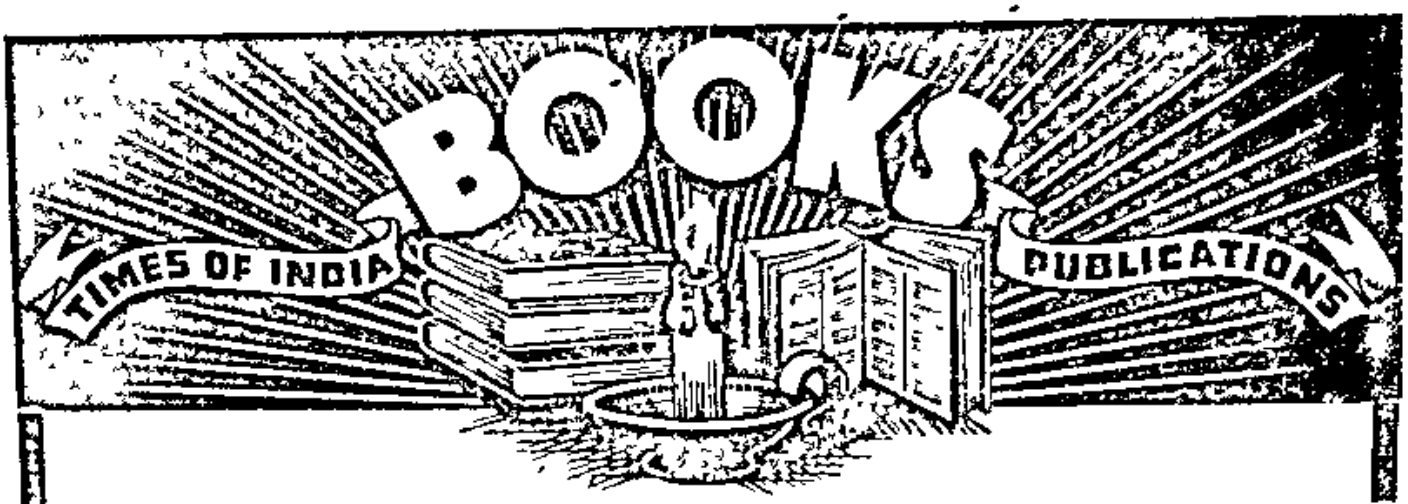
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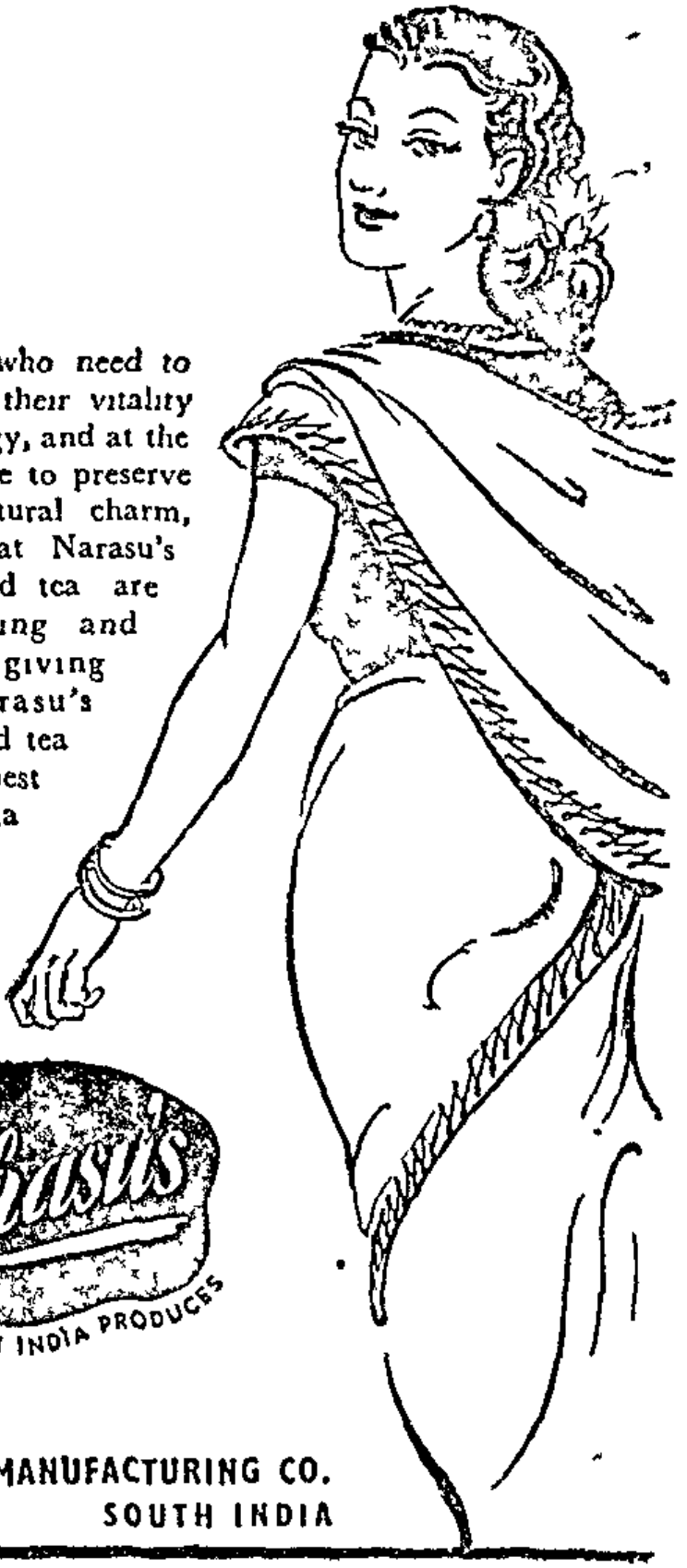
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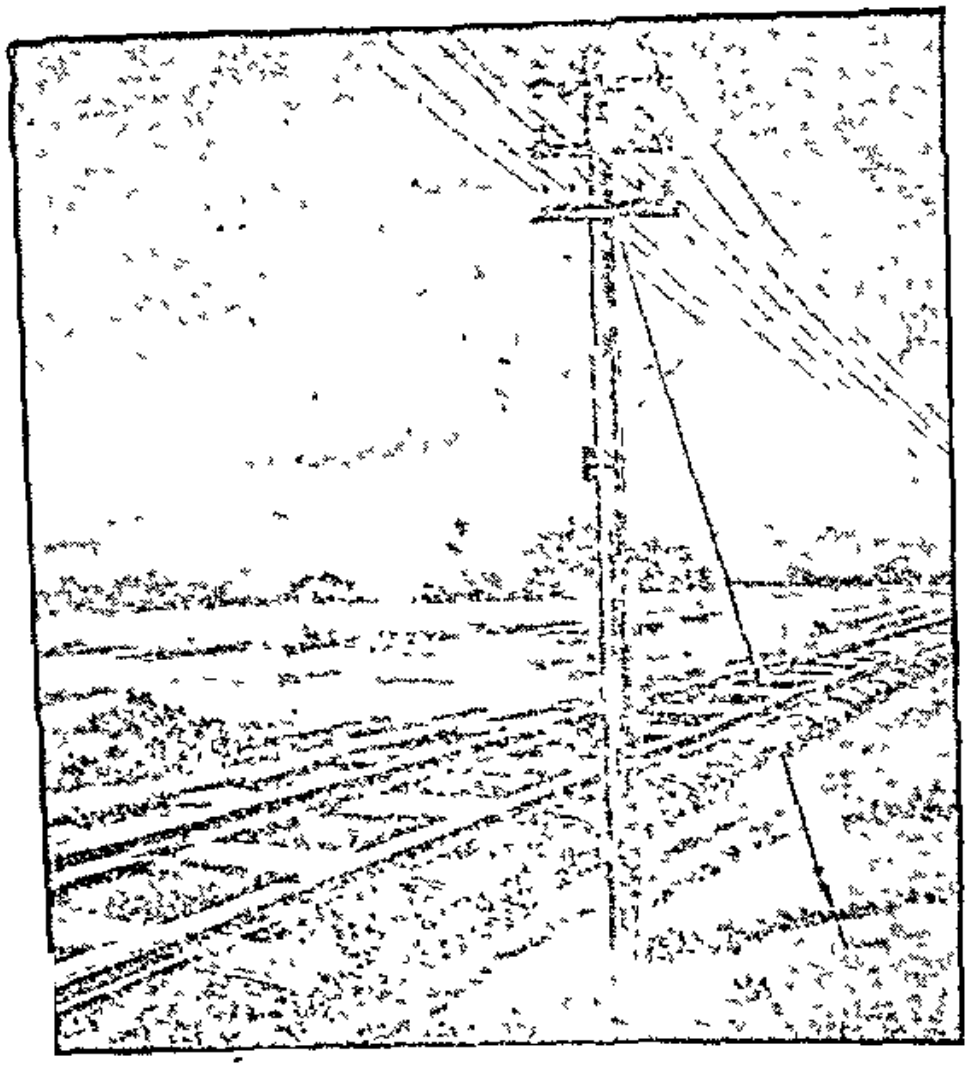


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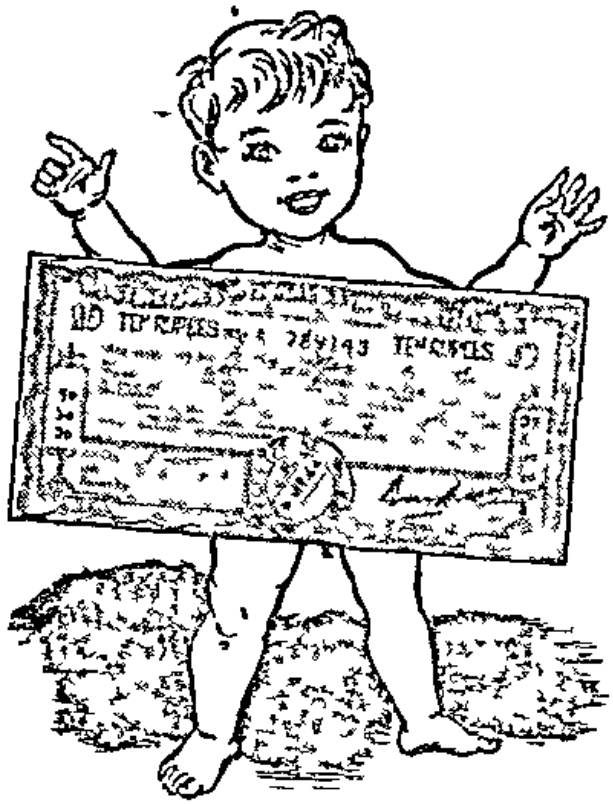
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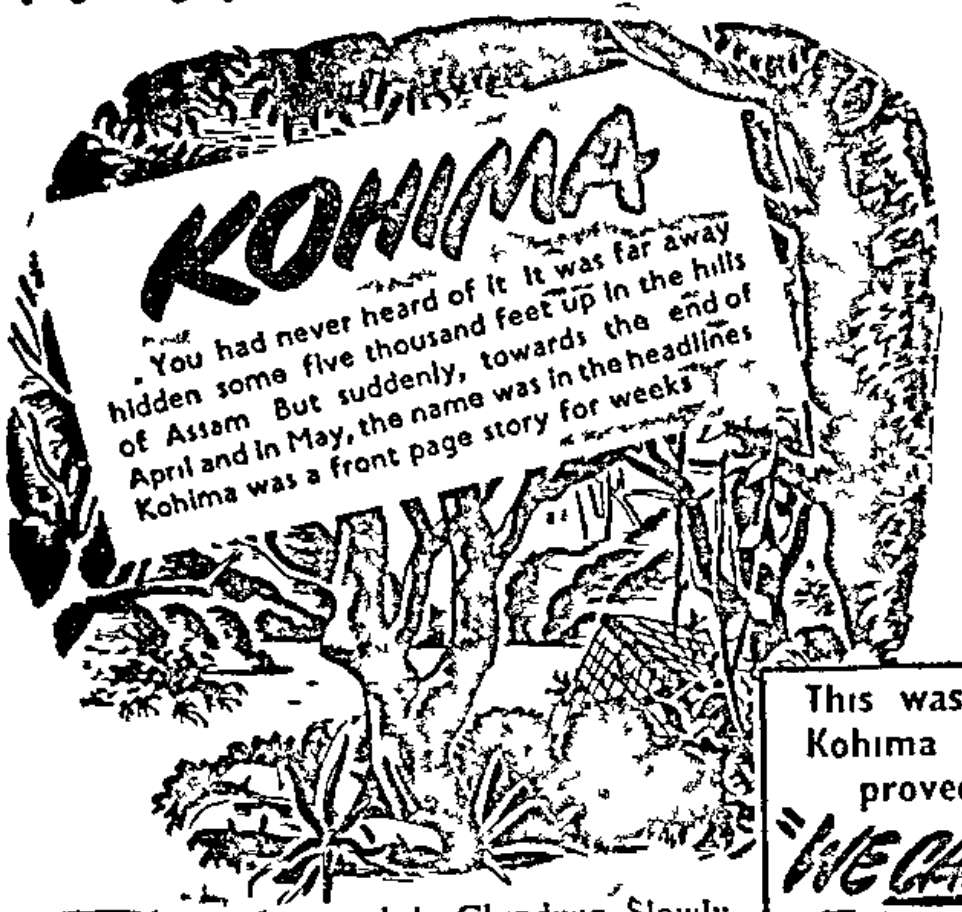
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TOJO'S MEN had crossed the Chindwin Slowly, stealthily, they had reached the slopes of Mt Japvo and the Naga Hills They took the few ridges and hills around Kohima The Nagas had been driven out of their villages Their houses were burnt, their huts were razed to the ground, their pigs poultry and crops looted and plundered 'INVASION OF INDIA the Japanese called it

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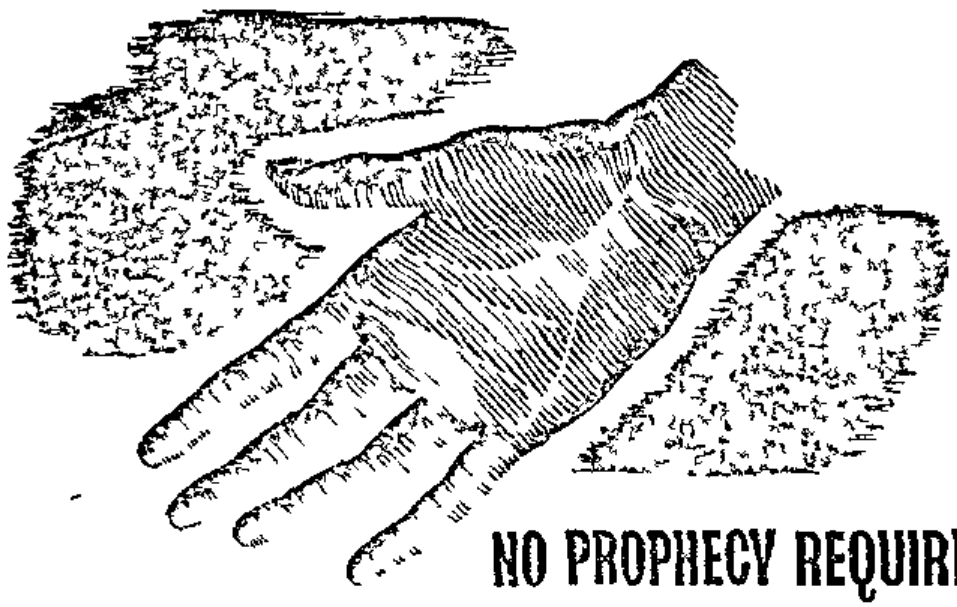
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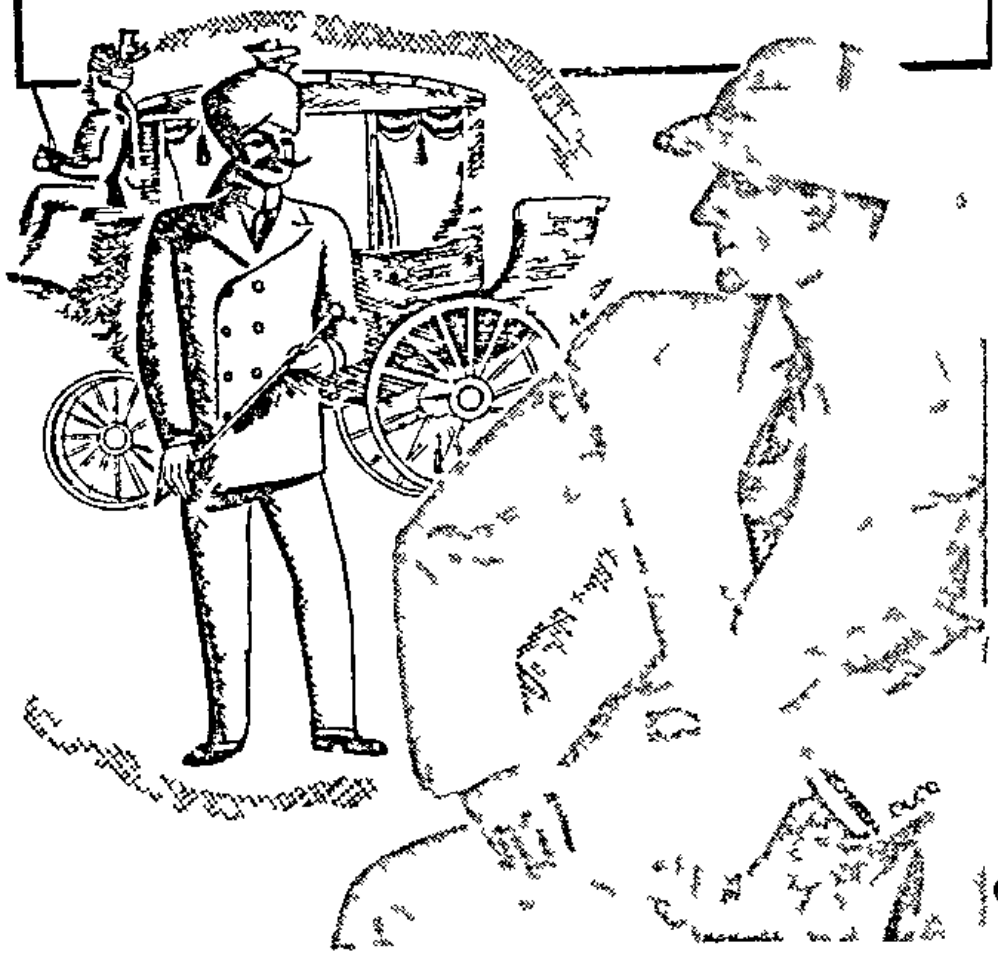
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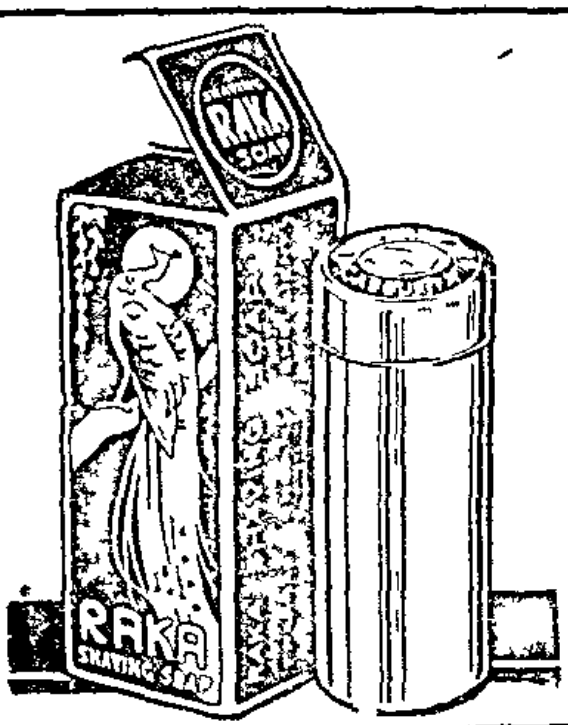
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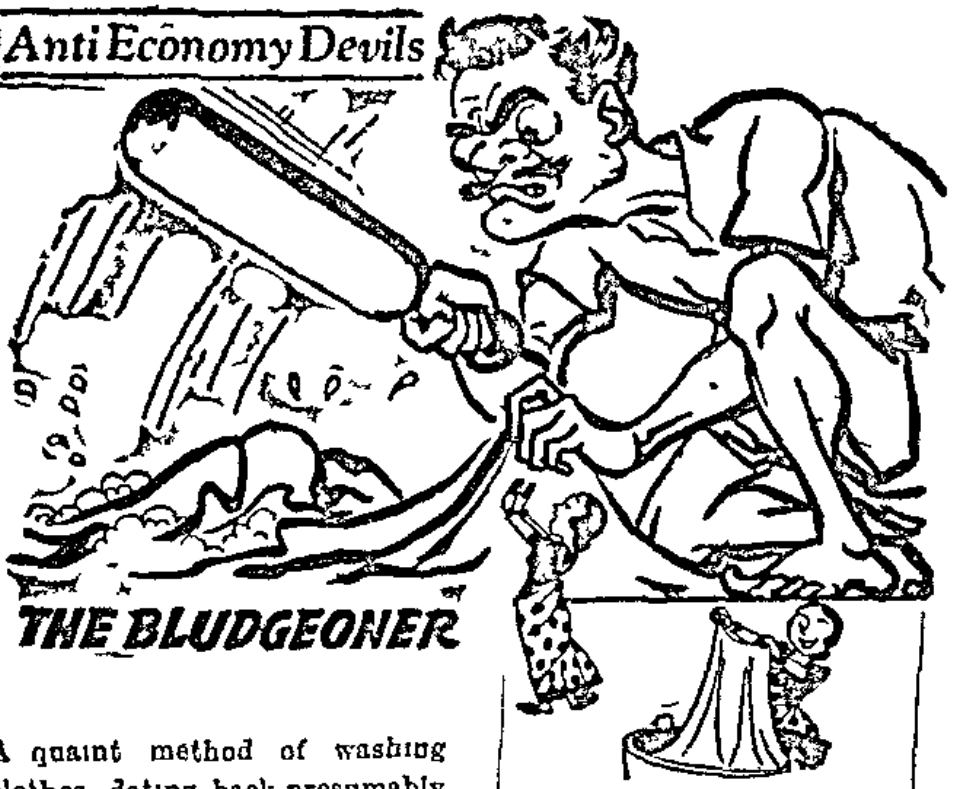
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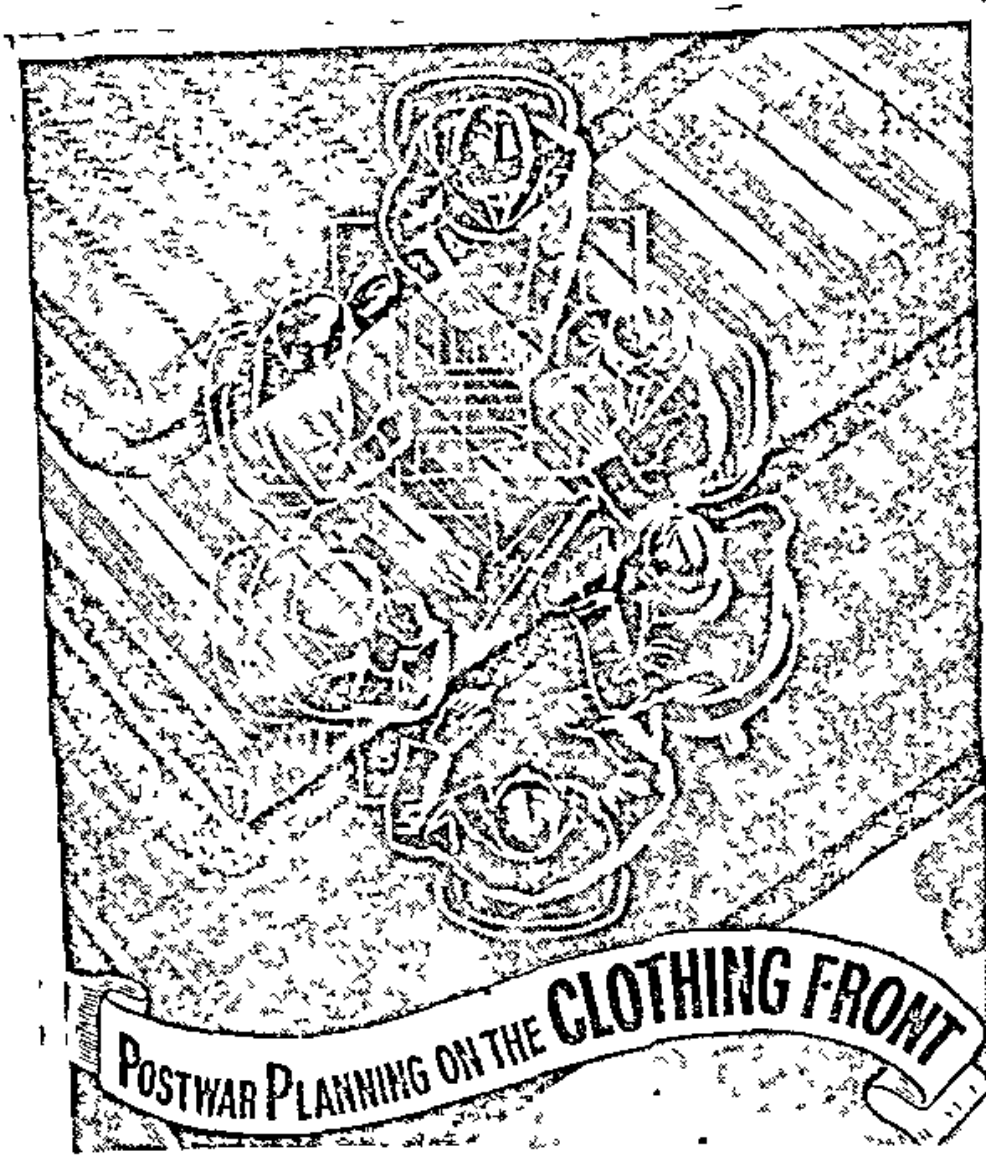
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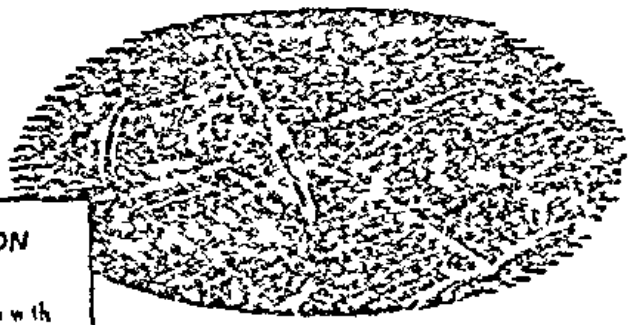
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